

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.

RECEIVED

30 JAN 1959

**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND THE

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended December 31st,**

**1957**



1958

D. W. Jones (Printers) Ltd.,  
Port Talbot 103812



**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

---



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

For the Year ended December 31st,

**1957**



1958

D. W. Jones (Printers) Ltd.,  
Port Talbot 103812

# CONTENTS.

	Page
STAFF .....	3
REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	
INTRODUCTORY LETTER .....	4
SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS .....	7
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS .....	7
Live Births .....	7
Still Births .....	7
Deaths .....	9
Deaths from Puerperal Causes .....	9
Infant Mortality .....	9
Classification of Deaths (Registrar General) .....	11
Glamorgan (Administrative County)—Vital Statistics, 1957 .....	10a
PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES .....	12
TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS .....	13
MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE STATISTICS .....	15
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES	
Hospitals .....	16
General Practitioner Service .....	17
Domiciliary Midwifery Service .....	17
Domiciliary Nursing Service .....	18
Home Help Service .....	18
Ambulance Service .....	19
Welfare Services .....	19
Clinic Services .....	18
Minor Gynaecological Clinic .....	18
Mental Health Service .....	19
Mental Defectives .....	19
N.S.P.C.C. .....	19
HOUSING .....	20
WATER SUPPLIES .....	21
SEWAGE DISPOSAL .....	22
DISPOSAL OF REFUSE .....	22
GENERAL INFORMATION.	
Education .....	23
Children's Department .....	23
Juvenile Court .....	23
Welfare Services (Part III accommodation) .....	23
Employment of Disabled Persons .....	23
Industrial Medical Services .....	24
REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.	
Introductory Letter .....	27
General Inspection of district, Number and Classification .....	29
Housing Inspections (houses unfit, houses rendered fit) .....	30
Number of nuisances discovered and notices served .....	30
Record of work done following service of notice .....	30
Diseased and unsound meat, condemned at the Abattoir .....	32
Unsound and unwholesome food condemned throughout the Borough... ..	38
Food submitted for analysis (quality, description, labelling) .....	40
Adulterated samples .....	41
Sale of Milk Regulations .....	42
Public Health (Preservatives in Food etc.) Regulations 1925/1953 .....	43
Milk Retailers (Licenses) .....	44
Food Hygiene .....	45
Water Supplies .....	48
Rent Act, 1957 .....	49
Inspection of Corporation Houses .....	50
Public Abattoir .....	51
Atmospheric Pollution, records and graphs .....	54
Pollution by sulphur gases, records .....	57
Rainfall Records .....	58
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 .....	60
Lodging Houses—Offensive Trades—Cinemas .....	62
Inspection of Factories .....	63
Slum Clearance activities .....	64
Infectious Diseases .....	66
Proceedings in Magistrates Court .....	67

## STAFFS.

---

### **Medical Officer of Health.**

D. H. J. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Glyncorrwg Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Council).

### **Chief Public Health Inspector.**

G. A. MORGAN (C.R.S.H. as Sanitary Inspector; C.S.I.B. as Sanitary Inspector; C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector; C.R.S.H. School Hygiene and Physiology; Diploma, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Certificate, School Hygiene, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Testamur Sanitary Science, University College of Wales). Fellow Royal Society of Health. Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

### **Additional Public Health Inspectors.**

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.H.S as Meat and Food Inspector).

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

W. E. DAVIES (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

R. M. DAVIES (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

### **DrainTester and Disinfector.**

W. G. DAVID.

### **Rodent Operative.**

D. MAINWARING.

### **Clerk.**

Miss VALERIE M. THOMAS.

### **Clerk.**

Miss AVRYL M. REID.

# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1957.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Port Talbot.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health as contained in Circular 1/1958 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health, I have pleasure in presenting for the consideration of Council the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1957.

As part of its function, the Health Department maintains a vigilant watch on the Water Supplies of the area. Regular samples are taken from the various sources of supply and the purity of the water imbibed is checked. This service includes both municipal and private sources.

In January, following a short dry and frosty spell a series of unsatisfactory results were obtained from a private source from which one of the industrial concerns within the borough boundary drew its water. As the personnel at this establishment numbered around seven hundred concern was felt by the management and the Department's advice and assistance was sought. The sequel is described in detail under the heading of Water Supplies in the body of the report.

The question of Accident Prevention with particular reference to Accidents in the Home came under discussion in February and the Council resolved to instal in all new houses wall fixtures in accordance with British Standard Specifications to suit fire guards of approved design. They further resolved to instal similar fixtures to existing council houses upon the request of individual tenants.

By March, the Poliomyelitis Vaccination programme, commenced during the previous year, was resumed in the area and experience during the year showed an increasing momentum of consent response. Supplies however were difficult and only a proportion of the applicants were able to complete their course of



treatment with British Produced Vaccine. The importation of Salk Vaccine saw a further increase in the numbers afforded this valuable type of protection.

Two cases of poliomyelitis occurred and these are discussed more fully in the main text of the report.

The importance of vaccination against Smallpox was underlined during April when the member of the crew of a ship that had visited a smallpox infected port arrived on leave in Aberavon. The person concerned had been vaccinated and during his stay in the Borough remained under close surveillance.

Work on the sea front went on apace during the year and by May, with an early promise of fine weather to come, much delight and pleasure obtained on that part of the sea wall already completed. It is regrettable however that such improved amenities are not appreciated by all and a small proportion of litter louts and viciously irresponsible persons who smashed bottles on the sands and terraces caused distress and injury to unsuspecting individuals. Only by the dint of hard work by the Department concerned was this difficulty overcome.

Towards the end of June, the Minister of Health made a statement on the subject of Lung Cancer, the attention of the general population being drawn to the statistical evidence in support of its relationship to heavy smoking, especially of cigarettes. The subject has since received much publicity both in the National Press, radio and television and local health authorities have undertaken to publicise the facts as known.

Between July and September the incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough rose steadily. This was accompanied by a visitation by an influenzal type of illness. Facilities were made available to all the doctors, domiciliary nurses, ambulance drivers and those exposed to infection to be vaccinated against Asian Influenza. During the peak of the outbreak certain restrictions were imposed upon hospital visiting in an effort to minimise the risk of introducing infection into the wards. As is recorded elsewhere in this report there was one death attributed to Influenza.

From time to time the attention of the Medical Officer of Health is drawn to the conditions under which the aged, chronic sick and infirm, resident within the district are living. During September it became apparent that one such person living in insanitary conditions was unable to devote to herself and was not receiving from other persons proper care and attention and after

taking appropriate action in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948, it became necessary to remove this person to a Welfare Services Hostel.

Ordinarily statutory action seldom becomes necessary, voluntary admission being the order of the day. At present, unfortunately, there are no Welfare Services Hostels within the Borough. Old people who do enter such establishments therefore have to uproot themselves from their old haunts, friends and local interests.

The interest in their own health and the willingness of the population to take advantage of health facilities was well demonstrated in September and October during the visit to the borough of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board. A grand total of nearly fifteen thousand people were examined, this number being more or less equally divided between the town and employees within the boundaries of the Steel Company of Wales.

The housing conditions of the population is closely related to the state of their health. Much work undertaken by the Public Health Inspectorate culminated during December in a Public Inquiry following which four compulsory purchase Orders were confirmed, covering four Clearance Areas. These are detailed at greater length in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of this report.

In these introductory remarks, I have attempted to highlight a few of the activities and aspects of the work during the year. The state of the health of the population and the contributory factors are analysed in greater detail in the body of the reports below.

I should however be remiss if I concluded my opening remarks without reference to the whole-hearted and enthusiastic co-operation of the Members of Council, my fellow officers in the various departments of council service and my colleagues in the field of professional medicine. To them all, I would like to extend my grateful thanks.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1957.

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore) .....	25,648 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1957) .....	47,780
Rateable value at 31st March, 1957 .....	£896,968
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1957 .....	£3,655
Rainfall in inches at Town Centre .....	41.42
Number of inhabited houses .....	15,413
Number of Houses erected in 1957 .....	502
(i) By Local Authority .....	454
(ii) By other bodies or persons .....	48
Number of houses connected to Corporation Mains Water Supply .....	15,375
Number of houses supplied from standpipes .....	38
Average daily consumption of water per person in gallons .....	29

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Live Births.

	Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .....	432	.....	433	865
Illegitimate .....	19	.....	15	34
Total number of live births .....	451	.....	448	899

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population .....	18.82	18.26
Live birth rate for England and Wales .....	16.10	—

#### Still Births.

	Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .....	20	.....	11	31
Illegitimate .....	1	.....	—	1
Total number of stillbirths .....	21	.....	11	32

The following table is of interest :—

Number of live births at home in the Borough .....	408
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital .....	418
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals .....	73

Of all live births 55% occurred in hospital. In 1956 the percentage births in hospital was 54 and in 1955, 58.

## Hospital Beds.

Over the years the desire for hospitalisation has progressively increased amongst expectant mothers. In Port Talbot a little over half of the confinements take place in hospital. The number of applications together with the number of cases refused each month to the limited number of beds available many have perforce to be refused beds.

I give below in tabulated form the numbers of hospital bed applications together with the number of cases refused each month during the year.

Patients due to be confined during	Total Number of Applications	Number Refused
January, 1957	60	15
February, 1957	54	9
March, 1957	62	17
April, 1957	58	13
May, 1957	55	10
June, 1957	55	10
July, 1957	57	12
*August, 1957	52	17
*September, 1957	59	34
*October, 1957	49	8
November, 1957	46	1
December, 1957	53	8

\* During August, September and October there was a curtailment of non-emergency beds at Neath General Hospital due to structural alterations and re-decoration in the Maternity Department.

This refusal figure although representing the actual numbers turned down is not a strictly accurate reflection of the potential numbers who, were they to apply, would have to be turned down. Many mothers expecting their second or third child did not apply at all knowing that unless there is some obstetric condition, health factor or danger, or serious domiciliary difficulty that their chances are slim.

The subject has been given publicity and has been the subject of consultations with the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee and the Welsh Regional Hospital Board. An increase in the number of beds available for obstetric work at Neath General Hospital by the extension upwards of the present obstetric department would release beds in other parts of the hospital and facilitate a general improvement in the hospital bed situation for Medical, Surgical, E.N.T. Orthopaedic and other specialities.

## Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 270 Female 235) .....	505
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population Crude, 10.57      Adjusted	13.64
Death rate for England and Wales .....	Crude 11.5
The death rate for the past nine years is summarised below:—	

1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
10.52	10.95	9.97	11.09	9.57	12.39	11.7	11.3	10.5

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There was one death from puerperal causes during 1957.

1a. Peripheral circulatory failure.

b. Ante-partum haemorrhage (accidental).

## Infant Mortality.

Neonatal Deaths—22. Neonatal Death rate per 1,000 Live births—24.47.

Cause of Death	First 24 hours of life	One day— One month
Prematurity .....	6	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	2	—
Broncho-Pneumonia .....	—	—
Want of attention at birth unidentified dead body found .....	1	—
Atelectasis .....	4	3
Neonatal Hepatitis .....	—	1
Total .....	13	9

Deaths during one month to one year of age—13.

Broncho Pneumonia .....	3
Cardiac Failure .....	4
Gastro Enteritis .....	1
Acute Bronchitis .....	1
Acute Bronchiolitis .....	—
Aspiration Pneumonia .....	1
Staphylococcal Pneumonia .....	1
Meningitis and Hydrocephalus .....	2
Total .....	13

From the above it will be seen that 35 infants failed to reach their first birthday. This gives an Infant Mortality rate of 38.93 per 1,000 live births. That for the whole of England and Wales during the same period was 23.0.

For comparison purposes I append below the Infant Mortality rate for the Borough for the last ten years :—

1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
38.93	28.31	34.21	22.78	19.4	29.06	30.6	33.8	54.8	35

**Deaths (all Ages).**

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1956 were:—

1.	Cardiovascular conditions	181
2.	Cancers of various kinds	74
3.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	70
4.	Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	60
5.	Tuberculosis	7
6.	Accidents	20

There were 12 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 11 amongst males and 1 amongst females.

This compares with:—14 deaths (12 males, 2 females) in 1956.

Of the one hundred and eighty-one deaths from cardiovascular conditions, seventy-nine were attributed to coronary disease. Fifty-nine men and twenty women died of coronary disease, this giving a proportion of a little under three to one male against female deaths in this class. In the previous year there were seventy-four deaths from coronary disease, fifty-one being males and twenty-three being females.

## GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1957.

	Estimated Population 1957	BIRTHS		Rate per 1,000 Population Crude      Adjusted	Number of Deaths	DEATHS		Rate per 1,000 Population Crude      Adjusted	INFANT MORTALITY		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births				Number of Deaths			Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1000 Live Births
England & Wales .....	722,952 .....	16.10 .....	— .....	514,946 .....	11.5 .....	— .....	16,641 .....	23.00 .....	11,904 .....	16.5 .....		
Administrative County .....	740,600 .....	12,081 .....	16.31 .....	16.15 .....	9,085 .....	12.27 .....	13.99 .....	380 .....	31.45 .....	263 .....	21.77 .....	
Urban Districts .....	535,500 .....	8,826 .....	16.48 .....	16.32 .....	6,582 .....	12.29 .....	14.13 .....	290 .....	32.86 .....	202 .....	22.89 .....	
Rural Districts .....	205,100 .....	3,255 .....	15.87 .....	16.35 .....	2,503 .....	12.20 .....	13.18 .....	90 .....	27.65 .....	61 .....	18.74 .....	
HEALTH DIVISION.												
CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS.												
<i>Aberdare and Mountain Ash—</i>												
Aberdare Urban .....	40,100 .....	611 .....	15.24 .....	15.70 .....	581 .....	14.49 .....	14.92 .....	23 .....	37.64 .....	18 .....	29.46 .....	
Mountain Ash Urban .....	30,590 .....	520 .....	15.24 .....	15.70 .....	411 .....	13.44 .....	16.26 .....	23 .....	44.23 .....	15 .....	28.85 .....	
<i>Caerphilly and Gelligaer—</i>												
Caerphilly Urban .....	37,330 .....	666 .....	17.84 .....	16.95 .....	352 .....	9.43 .....	12.73 .....	21 .....	31.53 .....	15 .....	22.52 .....	
Gelligaer Urban .....	36,260 .....	667 .....	18.39 .....	18.94 .....	405 .....	11.17 .....	14.07 .....	22 .....	32.98 .....	14 .....	20.99 .....	
<i>Mid-Glamorgan—</i>												
Bridgend Urban .....	14,810 .....	278 .....	18.77 .....	17.83 .....	173 .....	11.68 .....	12.61 .....	13 .....	46.76 .....	8 .....	28.78 .....	
Maesteg Urban .....	22,640 .....	365 .....	16.12 .....	16.12 .....	271 .....	11.97 .....	15.20 .....	11 .....	30.14 .....	10 .....	27.40 .....	
Ogmore & Garw Urban .....	22,180 .....	339 .....	15.28 .....	15.28 .....	256 .....	11.54 .....	13.96 .....	10 .....	29.50 .....	4 .....	11.80 .....	
Porthcawl Urban .....	10,310 .....	130 .....	12.61 .....	12.86 .....	140 .....	13.58 .....	11.54 .....	6 .....	46.15 .....	5 .....	38.46 .....	
Penybont Rural .....	35,660 .....	596 .....	16.71 .....	17.38 .....	524 .....	14.69 .....	13.22 .....	19 .....	31.88 .....	11 .....	18.46 .....	
<i>Neath and District—</i>												
Neath M.B. .....	31,170 .....	435 .....	13.96 .....	12.98 .....	379 .....	12.16 .....	13.74 .....	13 .....	29.89 .....	7 .....	16.09 .....	
Neath Rural .....	41,370 .....	607 .....	14.67 .....	14.38 .....	426 .....	10.30 .....	13.08 .....	15 .....	24.71 .....	13 .....	21.42 .....	
<i>Pontypridd and Llantrisant—</i>												
Llantrisant Rural .....	25,780 .....	467 .....	18.11 .....	17.39 .....	262 .....	10.16 .....	13.00 .....	14 .....	29.98 .....	10 .....	21.41 .....	
Pontypridd Urban .....	37,590 .....	585 .....	15.56 .....	14.94 .....	527 .....	14.02 .....	15.28 .....	17 .....	29.06 .....	11 .....	18.80 .....	
<i>Port Talbot and Glyncoerrwg—</i>												
Glyncoerrwg Urban .....	9,750 .....	212 .....	21.74 .....	21.31 .....	107 .....	10.97 .....	15.69 .....	6 .....	28.30 .....	5 .....	23.58 .....	
Port Talbot M.B. .....	47,780 .....	899 .....	18.82 .....	18.26 .....	505 .....	10.57 .....	13.64 .....	35 .....	38.93 .....	22 .....	24.47 .....	
<i>South East Glamorgan—</i>												
Barry M.B. .....	42,020 .....	765 .....	18.21 .....	17.48 .....	464 .....	11.04 .....	12.14 .....	28 .....	36.60 .....	20 .....	26.14 .....	
Cardiff Rural .....	39,180 .....	593 .....	15.14 .....	16.20 .....	561 .....	14.32 .....	11.74 .....	14 .....	23.61 .....	10 .....	16.86 .....	
Cowbridge M.B. .....	1,010 .....	11 .....	10.89 .....	11.33 .....	11 .....	10.89 .....	11.33 .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	— .....	
Cowbridge Rural .....	19,310 .....	360 .....	18.64 .....	20.69 .....	148 .....	7.66 .....	13.33 .....	8 .....	22.22 .....	6 .....	16.67 .....	
Penarth Urban .....	19,200 .....	321 .....	16.72 .....	16.55 .....	232 .....	12.08 .....	11.11 .....	11 .....	34.27 .....	9 .....	28.04 .....	
<i>West Glamorgan—</i>												
Gower Rural .....	11,920 .....	197 .....	16.53 .....	17.36 .....	159 .....	13.34 .....	12.14 .....	8 .....	40.61 .....	5 .....	25.38 .....	
Llŷchwr Urban .....	25,860 .....	348 .....	13.46 .....	13.73 .....	289 .....	11.18 .....	13.08 .....	6 .....	17.24 .....	5 .....	14.37 .....	
Pontardawe Rural .....	31,880 .....	435 .....	13.64 .....	13.78 .....	423 .....	13.27 .....	14.46 .....	12 .....	27.59 .....	6 .....	13.79 .....	
<i>Rhondda—</i>												
Rhondda M.B. .....	106,900 .....	1,674 .....	15.66 .....	15.35 .....	1,479 .....	13.84 .....	16.05 .....	45 .....	26.88 .....	34 .....	20.31 .....	





**CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1957**  
as recorded by the Registrar General.

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	2	3
2 Tuberculosis, other .....	2	—
3 Syphilitic disease .....	—	—
4 Diphtheria .....	—	—
5 Whooping Cough .....	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections .....	—	1
7 Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—
8 Measles .....	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	—
10 Cancer of stomach .....	2	3
11 Cancer of lung .....	11	1
12 Cancer of breast .....	—	7
13 Cancer of uterus .....	—	3
14 Other forms of cancer .....	18	23
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	2	4
16 Diabetes .....	—	6
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	29	41
18 Coronary disease, angina .....	59	20
19 Hypertension with heart disease .....	6	5
20 Other heart disease .....	35	30
21 Other circulatory disease .....	12	14
22 Influenza .....	3	5
23 Pneumonia .....	6	10
24 Bronchitis .....	20	6
25 Other diseases of respiratory system .....	6	4
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	7	4
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	2	2
28 Nephritis and nephrosis .....	1	2
29 Hyperplasia of prostate .....	3	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	—	1
31 Congenital malformations .....	2	6
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	26	22
33 Motor vehicle accidents .....	2	2
34 All other accidents .....	11	5
35 Suicide .....	3	5
36 Homicide and operations of war .....	—	—

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1957 as compared with 1955 and 1956.

Disease.	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	25	48	27
Whooping Cough	63	131	107
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Measles	1132	63	1156
Meningococcal Infection	4	4	3
Dysentery	3	4	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Peurperal Pyrexia	4	5	1
Smallpox	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	2	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	4	2
Malaria	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	2
Food Poisoning	3	3	3
Undulant Fever	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infectious)	—	—	—

### Distribution by Wards.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Polio	Pul. T.B.	Non-Pul. T.B.
Margam West	1	18	78	—	9	—
Margam Central	4	13	108	1	6	1
Margam North	—	3	6	1	2	—
Aberavon South	13	51	781	—	20	1
Aberavon North	8	22	170	—	10	—
Cwmavon	1	—	13	—	13	1

### Infectious Diseases.

#### Measles.

After a relatively quiet year in 1956 when only sixty-three cases of measles were notified, 1957 saw a sharp rise in the notifications, one thousand one hundred and fifty-six children having suffered from clinical measles. The highest incidence, as was expected, occurred in the South Ward, this not only being the largest ward in the borough but also the one with the highest child population.

## **Poliomyelitis.**

Two cases of poliomyelitis, one paralytic and one non-paralytic were notified during the year.

In the non-paralytic case, treated at the Groeswen Isolation Hospital, the diagnosis was only finally confirmed by pathological examinations of the child's stools. Recovery in this case was uneventful and there were no secondary cases.

The case of paralytic poliomyelitis occurred in an active schoolgirl of some fourteen years, the paralysis in this instance mainly affecting the shoulder girdle and upper arms. There was a history of strenuous exertion involving the shoulder and arm muscles a day or two prior to the onset of illness.

This child was admitted to Hill House Isolation Hospital, Swansea, and in due time made a good recovery. There were no secondary cases and as in the first case no connection with any known or suspected case of poliomyelitis could be discovered.

## **Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

During 1957 the number of children given the full course of injections amounted to 2,587 whilst an additional 391 children had received their first injection. It is anticipated that the vaccination rate for 1958 will be considerably higher than this.

## **Tuberculosis.**

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups.

Number of cases on Register: On 1st January, 1957—527.

# **Number of cases on Register on 1st January, 1957—527.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	215	219
Non-Pulmonary .....	46	47
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>266</b>

# **Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1957—559.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	230	242
Non-Pulmonary .....	43	44
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>286</b>

Number left district .....	19
Number died .....	10
Number recovered .....	22
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>51</b>

Number of New notifications .....	63
Number of In-Transfers .....	20
Number restored to Register .....	—
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>83</b>

# **New cases during 1957 :—**

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .....	1	—	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years .....	—	1	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years .....	—	1	—	1
Over 10 years and under 15 years .....	—	1	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years .....	2	5	—	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years .....	2	4	—	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years .....	7	7	—	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years .....	6	2	—	—
Over 45 years and under 55 years .....	9	2	—	—
Over 55 years and under 65 years .....	4	1	—	—
Over 65 years .....	4	1	1	1
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

# MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY (SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER, 1957)

	BETHANY			SANDFIELDS			STEEL CO. OF WALES		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total Number Examined .....	2777	3800	6577	83	239	322	7306	558	7864
No. found to be abnormal .....	134	79	213	18	34	52	871	52	1023
Classification of abnormal cases									
(a) Requiring further observation .....	17	24	41	2	10	12	105	6	111
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest .....	117	55	172	16	24	40	866	46	912

From these figures it will be seen that a grand total of 14,763 persons were examined. Of these 1288 were found to be abnormal, 164 requiring further observation and 1124 having other abnormalities of the chest.

## **Disinfection.**

A high proportion of cases of infectious illness are admitted to hospital for isolation and treatment. This is applicable in particular to Scarlet Fever, Meningococcal Infection, Dysentery, Puerperal Pyrexia, Paratyphoid B., Erysipelas, Poliomyelitis and, when the symptom and signs are of a severe nature Food Poisoning.

Arrangements are made during the initial domiciliary investigation for disinfection of the room, bedding and necessary articles of the patient. The bedding, etc., is transported by the department's disinfection transport to and from the Groeswen Hospital where, by arrangement with the hospital authority, steam disinfection is carried out.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.**

The Health Services provided in accordance with Statutory requirements may be sub-divided under three main headings, those provided by the Regional Hospital Board (A); those provided by the Executive Council (B); and those provided by the Local Health Authority (C).

### **(A) Hospitals.**

Port Talbot falls within the area served by the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee. This Committee being responsible for thirteen hospitals, two of which, the Port Talbot General and the Groeswen Isolation Hospitals are situated within the borough boundaries.

All the hospitals in the Group are however available to residents of the borough dependent on the bed requirement. Likewise, by arrangement, cases requiring specialised forms of treatment are admitted to hospitals outside the area catering for such specialities. Examples being the Plastic Surgery Unit at Chepstow, the Head Unit at Morriston and the Chest Surgery Unit at Sully.

There being no maternity beds at Port Talbot, obstetric cases are therefore admitted to Neath and Bridgend General Hospitals where a certain proportion of beds are available for allocation by the Divisional Medical Officer. The need for an increase in the allocation to Port Talbot Borough was carefully discussed during the year with representatives of the Regional Hospital Board and the Mid-Blamorgan Hospital Management Committee.



### **Venereal Diseases Clinic.**

The clinic is situated at Station Approach, Port Talbot and separate sessions under the direction of a specialist Medical Officer are held for men and women.

### **(B) General Practitioner Service.**

Under the control of the Glamorgan Executive Council the population receives full and adequate General Practitioner Service. With but three exceptions the service is made up of doctors in partnership, such partnerships ranging from two to five.

Generally speaking the doctors provide morning and evening surgery facilities in their own premises holding themselves available for domiciliary visits in the afternoons. Certain of the doctors now provide ante-natal clinics for their own patients in their own surgeries.

### **Pharmaceutical Service.**

The borough is well supplied with chemist shops, all the pharmacists in the borough providing and supplying drugs etc., under the National Health Service.

In the isolated village of Bryn however, there being no convenient pharmacy the doctor does his own dispensing.

### **Ophthalmic Services.**

There are some six ophthalmic opticians in the borough all providing glasses under the National Health Service.

### **Dental Service.**

Four dental surgeons working full-time provide a service under the National Health Service provisions of the Glamorgan Executive Council.

### **(C) The Local Health Authority Services.**

In the main these services are provided by the Health Department of the Glamorgan County Council, the local day to day administration being undertaken by the Divisional Health Department under the guidance of your Medical Officer of Health who holds the joint appointment.

### **Domiciliary Midwifery.**

Eight County Midwives working under the general direction of the Divisional Medical Officer are strategically domiciled throughout the Borough and accept responsibility for pre-determined areas.

The domiciliary birth rate in the South ward (Sandfields) is high. The Borough Council, alive to the needs have provided two houses in this area for resident midwives. All midwives are on the telephone.

### **Domiciliary Nursing Service.**

Eight full-time domiciliary nurses are likewise strategically domiciled and have responsibilities for pre-determined areas.

Working under the direction of the Divisional Medical Officer the duties they are called upon to undertake vary from the administration of injections to the daily general nursing care of chronic bed-ridden cases. Their services are available to all General Practitioners who usually make direct contact with the nurses or failing this with the Divisional Health Office.

### **Medical Comforts.**

Medical comforts in the form of bed rests, rubber sheets, bed-pans, urinals, sputum mugs, rubber air rings, wheel chairs, crutches, walking aids etc., are available for issue on certification in any case of need. No charge is made for the hire of this type of equipment.

### **Home Help Service.**

In the past this growing service was mainly utilised by the elderly, the aged, chronic sick and the blind. Today, however, increasing use of the service is being made by the young mother and family immediately following domiciliary confinement. By the judicious allocation of help it has also been possible in more than one instance to avoid the break-up of a home during the hospitalisation of a parent.

A team of nearly fifty part-time and casual Home Helps are employed in the division. All applications for domiciliary assistance are investigated and help allocated to the maximum amount possible commensurate with the demand.

A charge in accordance with County Council Regulations is made for this service.

### **Clinic Services.**

All areas in the borough are now served by ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics. The majority of the sessions are held in Council owned premises, there being five properly equipped clinics available for this purpose. Three hired premises in outlying areas—one a council house, one church vestry and one a Community Centre house small but invaluable clinic sessions.

In addition to the above the School Health Service provides Dental, Refraction, Speech Therapy, Orthopaedic as well as Minor

Ailment Clinics. It is hoped in the near future to introduce a Child Guidance Session into one of the larger clinics.

A minor Gynaecological Clinic is held monthly for married women who require advice on birth control on medical grounds. Attendance at this clinic is by appointment only and this is arranged by the Divisional Medical Officer on the written representation of medical practitioners.

### **Mental Health Services.**

Initial proceedings under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts for the provision of care and treatment of persons in the area suffering from mental illness, is taken by the Duly Authorised Officer. For this area this person is Mr. Ivor Evans, 99 Lone Road, Clydach, Swansea (Telephone Number—Clydach 2170).

### **Mental Defectives.**

The ascertainment, supervision and general welfare of Mental Defectives is undertaken by the Glamorgan County Council. Officers of the Authority undertake domiciliary supervision and admission to residential care is only recommended when this is considered necessary. Residential care is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

An Occupation Centre is located at the old schoolroom in Baglan. These are temporary premises pending the erection of a new and properly equipped Centre in Briton Ferry.

### **Ambulance Service.**

The County Ambulance service operates locally from an Ambulance Control Centre at Neath (Telephone Number—Neath 871). All transport is booked from the Control Centre which is in radio telephonic communication with all cars out on the road.

This service is available for routine ambulance as well as emergency ambulance transportation. It is not, of course, available for hospital visits of patients who are fit and able to make use of public transport.

### **Welfare Services.**

Provided by the Glamorgan County Council but not directly by the Health Department are the Welfare Services. The local office is at 8, Wind Street, Neath.

This department is responsible for the provision of Part III Hostel Accommodation, the care of the homeless and care of property etc., of patients in hospitals or institutions who have no relatives to undertake this responsibility, the visiting of and welfare of the blind and handicapped.

### **N.S.P.C.C.**

The local Inspector's address is 10, Gnoll Crescent, Neath and his telephone number is Neath 695.

## HOUSING.

During 1957, 502 permanent houses were completed of which 454 were built by the Council and 48 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past eight years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by others.	Total
1957	454	48	502
1956	287	66	353
1955	420	63	483
1954	642	55	697
1953	630	32	662
1952	575	—	575
1951	505	—	505
1950	38	—	38

The waiting list for re-housing by the Local Authority remains high. At the end of 1957 after much "pruning of dead-wood" the Housing Manager states that 1,695 names remained on his file.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:

December 31st, 1956	1,834
" " 1955	1,699
" " 1954	1,540
" " 1953	1,650
" " 1952	1,340
" " 1951	1,732
" " 1950	1,940

Re-housing is effected by one of three different methods. By allocation to incoming key workers, by allocation to families from condemned houses and by allocation via the impartial and careful administration of a points scheme.

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was effected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis	9
Families from Condemned Houses	25
Families from squatters camps	—
Families from overcrowded houses	5
Key Workers in Industry	236



## **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.**

No cases of statutory overcrowding within the meaning of the Act were brought to the notice of the Department during the period under review.

### **WATER SUPPLIES.**

Alive to the increasingly urgent need to provide an adequate and plentiful supply of water to satisfy the requirements of domestic and industrial expansion Council has continued negotiations with the neighbouring Borough of Neath with a view to the construction of a joint reservoir at the head of the Neath Valley. Having regard to all the factors involved the "Go Ahead" Signal cannot come too soon.

As was mentioned in my introductory remarks the private supply to an industrial establishment employing some seven hundred personnel caused concern due to unsatisfactory bacteriological results in serial samples and our advice was sought.

On investigation it was ascertained that water for domestic use was electrically pumped from a properly constructed well drawing water from a relatively superficial stratum—the water table being very near the surface at that point. The site of the well was slightly sunken, surrounded by a brick wall to form a small compound, the top of which was covered by chicken wire mesh. The compound was at all times kept locked and only entered as required by authorised persons. Direct pollution of the well was impossible although bird droppings (sea-gulls in particular) could pollute the well covers and surrounding ground through the mesh of the chicken wire.

In order to provide a suitable head of water and to obviate the need for continuous pumping a covered steel tank had been fitted about half way up the steel girder understructure of the industrial water tank. This was subject to periodic cleansing and was fitted with a close fitting lid—the outside of which was open to pollution by birds including sea-gulls.

From this tank the water passed into the domestic supply by gravitational feed. The pressure in the domestic supply was lower than that in the industrial—a point that received careful consideration during the ensuing discussions with the management.

Having regard to the history of intermittently unsatisfactory results, the question of providing purification plant, the future water requirements of the establishment both domestic and industrial, the management decided to apply to the Council for connection to the Corporation mains. This was effected after a not inconsiderable extension of main had been laid.

The Cwm Philip extraction scheme worked well to augment supplies at the Margam end of the Borough.

Further consideration of and sampling of the Ffrwdwyllt was undertaken with a view to extraction, filtration and chlorination of emergency additional supplies from the Ffrwdwyllt River at Tynyffern.

Whilst these emergency measures may serve to maintain a fairly reasonable supply during fairly wet weather conditions, they can only be considered at best temporary pending implementation of the major scheme. A drought, were it of but short duration would quickly drain the existing reserves.

By the end of 1957 some 15,375 houses were connected to and drawing water from the Council's mains. The number of houses in outlying areas still continuing to draw water from standpipes having dropped to 38. The comparable figures for the preceding year were 14,866 and 45 respectively.

The estimated average daily consumption of water per head of population remains at just over twenty-nine gallons.

### **SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

As described in previous Annual Reports the proximity of the borough to the sea facilitates the disposal of sewage. The main outfall sewer jointly used by this borough, the Glyncoirwg Urban District and by the Steel Company of Wales serves the central and eastern end of the borough whilst the older parts of Aberavon, together with the new housing estate on Sandfields, empties its sewage at points in the tidal reaches of the river estuary. Although such an arrangement has served reasonably well, it may well be that Council may in due time give consideration to some method of disposal alternative to the river estuary.

### **REFUSE DISPOSAL.**

Refuse collection and disposal is undertaken by the Borough Engineer's Department. The frequency of collection varies from daily to weekly in various parts of the borough.

In my report for 1956, I reported the decreasing numbers of unconventional receptacles used for refuse storage prior to collection. The trend in the right direction continues. Man is, however, a contrary creature. He is also inventive. The number of different types and sizes of paint drums, steel containers (understandable in a steel town) that have been fitted with proper lifting handles is astonishing. What is forgotten is that to be hygienic and effective, the containers must have lids—close fitting and coming down outside the top rim of the container in order to keep out rain.

I suspect that were the final costing of these adapted containers to be examined, it might well have proved cheaper had regulation dust bins been purchased in the first instance.



## GENERAL INFORMATION.

### Education.

The following information has been provided by Mr. R. J. Williams, the Divisional Executive Officer :—

1. Total average number of pupils attending primary and secondary schools in the Borough during 1957 .....	8445
2. Total average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1957 .....	1736
3. Total average number of pupils receiving milk in school during 1957 .....	6442

### Children's Department.

Miss Beti Jones, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer has kindly supplied the following details :—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1957 .....	7
2. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1957 .....	4

### Juvenile Court.

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 258 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1957.

### Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

Ten persons from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1957.

### Employment of Disabled Persons.

Of 650 men and 31 women on the Disabled Persons Register (at the end of the year) only 27 men and 3 women were wholly unemployed, 35 men and 1 woman having been placed in suitable employment during the period.

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

December, 1948 .....	188 .....	276
„ 1949 .....	168 .....	162
„ 1950 .....	77 .....	151
„ 1951 .....	61 .....	50
„ 1952 .....	76 .....	61
„ 1953 .....	80 .....	30
„ 1954 .....	77 .....	39
„ 1955 .....	60 .....	41
„ 1956 .....	89 .....	43
„ 1957 .....	87 .....	51

## Industrial Medical and Amenity Services.

Mr. David J. Young, Director and Secretary of the Steel Company of Wales has very kindly supplied the following information on the Medical and Amenity Services provided by his Company for inclusion in this Report.

(1) STRENGTH OF LABOUR EMPLOYED (as at 28/12/57).

Operational .....	11,258
Staff .....	3,566
Total .....	14,824

(2) PERCENTAGE OF REGISTERED DISABLED PERSONS.  
3.03% as at 28th December, 1957.

(3) NUMBER AND EXTENT OF CANTEENS PROVIDED.

There are now 23 canteens operating as follows :—

2 staff canteens serving staff only ..... day shift only

7 canteens serving staff and operatives ..

5 canteens serving contractors ..... day shift only

7 canteens serving staff and operatives three shifts

2 canteens serving staff and operatives two shifts

Tea and biscuits are available to all staff in General Office every working morning and afternoon.

All canteens serve breakfast, main meals, light teas, hot and cold beverages, snacks, etc., cigarettes and confectionery. Also packed meals by means of Vendepac Machines which are installed in most departments.

(4) EXTENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF WELFARE ACTIVITIES AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

(a) MEDICAL DEPARTMENT :

Staff.—1 Resident Doctor—whole time.

4 Local Practitioners—part time.

1 Physiotherapist.

14 male State Registered Nurses.

7 female State Registered Nurses.

2 female Nurses.

18 Ambulance men

4 Ambulance Drivers.

## **Ambulance Rooms.**

There are now six ambulance rooms manned whole time, one medical centre manned on days only five and half days per week.

### **(b) AMENITIES DEPARTMENT :**

There are now 30 amenity blocks with separate dining rooms for staff and operatives plus lockers; shower and wash basin rooms and lavatories. In addition there are 43 Mess Rooms suitably equipped.

Lockers have been issued to 11,010 employees and a further 8800 are in course of being issued.

Safety and Welfare Officers are specifically appointed to keep under review the provision of minor amenities and the standard of working conditions throughout the Plant. They are also closely connected with the Accident Prevention Organisation.

There are Accident Prevention Committees on which members of the Management and employees sit together, and a Central Accident Prevention Committee deals with general questions submitted to it by the Departmental Committees, and with the broader aspects of accident prevention policy.

The Company has a well equipped Sports Ground with all facilities for the usual sports and games together with a Social Club.

The health of the individual in industry is indivisibly linked with his health at home and in the community at large. In the full realisation of this the Health team includes the Industrial Medical Officer. It gives me pleasure therefore in concluding my section of this Annual Report to record my appreciation of the co-operation and unfailing courtesy of my Industrial Medical colleague, Dr. Richard B. Body, in all my approaches to and dealings with his department.

**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

---



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended December 31st,**

**1957**



## BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT.

---

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Port Talbot.

---

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration, my Annual Report for the Year 1957. This is the twenty-third of a series of such reports, that I have had the pleasure to provide, upon the work carried out by your Sanitary Department.

The scope of the department's activities include a wide field of environmental health responsibilities arising from housing conditions, the transport, storage and handling of food, purity of water supplies, rodent and pest control, offensive trades, factories and shops, meat and milk inspection, and sampling, atmospheric pollution and many allied subjects.

Whilst we work within the powers imposed by legislation upon local authorities, we deplore the need, when it arises, to enforce such powers by Statutory action. We therefore, endeavour in all our activities to be advisory and avoid, as far as possible, the attitude or role of Enforcement Officer. With this approach, a better understanding of the Department's work is being created and we find that more is achieved and accomplished. The direct result of this is that the Public Health Officer is now accepted in the food, building and other trades as well as by factory executives, house owners, occupiers, as a friend and advisor in dealing with the many problems which arise from day to day.

The triumphs of our work and activities are to be found in the battles that are never fought and in the epidemics that never break out. Our victories are less spectacular than those of curative medicine, but, none the less real. This knowledge is a great encouragement to all concerned with the maintenance and improvement of environmental conditions.

The presentation of this report affords me an opportunity once again to thank Council and its Public Health Committee for the help they have readily given throughout the year; of expressing my appreciation to the Chief Officers of Council Departments for their very cordial co-operation throughout the year on matters of mutual interest, and to the members of the Staff of your Sanitary Department for their continued loyalty and good service.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. A. MORGAN,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



Report of Mr. G. A. Morgan, Chief Public Health Inspector  
and Inspector under the Factories and Housing Acts.

**GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.**

Housing Inspection and re-inspection .....	4162
Structural Defects .....	2499
Drains, yards, W.C.'s. ....	2536
Common lodging houses .....	55
Amusement houses and cinemas .....	67
Verminous premises .....	285
Dirty conditions .....	175
Accumulations .....	176
Ash pits, privies and cesspools, .....	12
Tents, vans and sheds .....	103
Dairies and milk shops .....	93
Food premises, kitchens and vehicles .....	2309
Public houses .....	107
Houses let in lodgings, tenements, etc. ....	67
Offensive trades .....	41
Fish fryers .....	43
Ice cream premises, etc. ....	257
Bakehouses .....	79
Factories .....	461
Schools .....	44
Pig styes and pigs .....	53
Stables, refuse and manure .....	24
Rats and mice .....	5426
Atmospheric Pollution .....	304
Animals improperly kept .....	56
Meat and food inspections .....	2136
Slaughterhouse .....	698
Water supplies .....	329
Water sampling .....	301
Food and Drugs sampling .....	242
Milk samplings .....	90
Other nuisances .....	58
Public Conveniences .....	43
Interviews .....	697
Infectious diseases .....	94
Police Court attendances .....	29
Shops, offices, etc. ....	874
Overcrowding .....	23
Total .....	<u>25048</u>

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts .....	911
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same .....	3234
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation .....	12
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation .....	405
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices .....	497

Some of the houses found not in all respects fit for habitation in the latter part of 1957 would not be rendered fit until some time in 1958, whereas some of the houses rendered fit in 1957 followed notices served in the latter part of 1956.

The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows :—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural defects .....	219	219	93
Drains, yards, W.C's. ....	184	184	67
Dirty conditions .....	14	14	6
Pig styes and swine keeping ..	17	17	9
Water supplies .....	21	21	4
Accumulations .....	14	14	—
Food premises .....	11	11	—
Rats and mice .....	561	22	—
Verminous infestations .....	25	10	—
Faetories .....	17	4	—
Tenements .....	2	2	—
Dairies .....	2	2	—
Stables, refuse and manure ..	2	2	—
Animals improperly kept .....	4	4	1
Shops and offices .....	6	6	—
Hotels .....	12	12	—
Totals .....	1111	544	180

The work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:—

### Nature of work done:

#### Houses :

Walls repaired—17, Outside plastering repaired—16, Inside plastering repaired—67, Floors renewed or repaired—32, Floors ventilated—2, Roofs renewed or repaired—73, Shoots, downpipes or gutters repaired or renewed—61, Chimneys repaired—14, Ceilings repaired—26, Doors and frames repaired—24, Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved—2, Window sashes or frames, renewed or repaired—33, Window cords renewed—21, Staircases repaired—3, Grates or ovens repaired or renewed—11, Boilers provided or repaired—1, Out-buildings repaired—9, Walls or ceilings cleansed and re-decorated—5, Bedding cleansed or destroyed—39, Rooms treated for vermin—25, Yard paving relaid or

repaired—12, Nuisances from animals abated—4, Accumulations removed—11, Water supply provided—3, Water taps or pipes renewed—8, Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances—7, Wash-up sinks provided—4, Skirting boards repaired or renewed—14.

### **Drainage :**

Drains tested, smoke and chemical—11, Drains relaid—31, Drains repaired—21, Drains cleansed—45, Inspection or intercepting chambers provided or repaired 13, Intercepting traps fixed—3, Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired—2, Gullies fixed—10, Sinks trapped or waste pipes repaired—3, Wash hand basins trapped or waste pipes repaired—7.

### **Toilets and Fittings, etc. :**

Additional W.C's. provided—2, W.C's. reconstruted—7, Lighting and ventilation improved—7, New pans and traps fixed—9, Repaired—11, Miscellaneous repairs—6, Seats provided or repaired—4.

### **Cesspools :**

Abolished and house connected to sewer—2.

### **Common Lodging Houses :**

Limewashing or cleansing carried out—1.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs :**

Number of houses infested with bed bugs—25, Number of houses disinfested by (a) occupier—20, (b) Local Authority—5.

### **Tents, Vans and Sheds :**

Removed—7.

### **Miscellaneous :**

Smoke nuisances abated—3, Animal and Poultry nuisances abated—4, Cockroach and earwig infestations abated—9.

### **Rats and Mice :**

Infestations removed—691, Rat and mice proofing carried out—9, Local authority premises—15, Dwellinghouses 619, Business premises—57, Agricultural premises—27.

## **Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.**

### **Hotels and Public Houses :**

Bars: Walls repaired—10, Floors repaired or renewed—1, Ceiling decorated—79, Rooms and passages re-decorated—79, Windows repaired or renewed—9, Seats re-upholstered—2, Repairs to Bar fittings—2, New Bars fitted—3, Sinks and draining boards renewed—6, Sink wastes repaired or renewed—3.

Cellars: Walls rendered—18, Walls repaired—3, Ceilings under-drawn—3, Floors repaired or renewed—2, Drainage to floors—2, Pumps fitted to sumps—6, Walls repaired—1, Cellars discontinued—2, New cellars provided—1, Re-decoration or cleansing—5, New sumps constructed—2, New bottle stores—1.

Sanitary Accommodation: Provision of intervening vent space—4, Gutleys renewed—1, Sparge pipes repaired or renewed—3, Sanitary Accommodation improved—4, Re-decoration—19, Seats fitted—9, New female accommodation provided—3, New sinks and wash-hand basins—7, New male accommodations provided—2.

External: Rear yards paved—1, External walls repaired—3, Roof repaired—2, Ventilation and heating improved—1.

### **Food Shops, Kitchens, etc. :**

Cleanliness improved—3, Improved storage arrangements—4, Light and ventilation—4, Wash-up and Sinks fixed—18, Walls repaired—18, Water supplies provided—13, W.C. provided or improved—14, Washing facilities provided or improved—3, New oven fixed in bakehouse—1, Refuse bins provided—3, Drainage provided—1.

## **MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS.**

An important part of the duties of your Public Health Inspectors is the inspection of meat at the Public Abattoir. Here the Inspector is on duty before slaughtering commences and does not leave the premises until slaughtering has discontinued. The methods and criteria of meat inspection recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are strictly complied with. The quantity of diseased and unsound meat condemned at the Abattoir during the year, was as follows:—

### **Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers.**

#### **TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.**

Carcases and all offals	3	Mesenterics and Intestines	18
Forequarters	2	Stomachs	14
Heads and Tongues	24	Skirts	3
Lungs	23	Spleens	2
Livers	10	Heart	1

## DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

4 Carcasses and all organs	—	1 Lipomata and oedema, 3 Pathological Emaciation.
3 Part Forequarters	—	3 Bruising.
4 Part Hindquarters	—	1 Actinomycosis, 3 Bruising.
25 Heads and Tongues	—	1 Abscess, 17 Actinomycosis, 6 C. Bovis, 1 Glossitis.
354 Lungs	—	76 Congested, 4 Pneumonia, 7 Parasitic, 3 Abscess, 184 Pleurisy, 80 Hydatid Cysts.
32 Hearts	—	19 Pericarditis, 13 C. Bovis,
329 Livers	—	231 Distomatosis, 27 Cirrhosis, 41 Abscess, 10 Hydatid Cysts, 3 Bacterial Necrosis, 15 Angiomata 2 Peritonitis.
368 Part Livers	—	325 Distomatosis, 43 Cirrhosis.
26 Spleens	—	26 Peritonitis.
13 Kidneys	—	1 Bruising, 8 Cysts, 4 Nephritis.
48 Skirts	—	38 Pleurisy, 7 Abscess, 3 Peritonitis.
26 Omentums and Stomachs	—	19 C. Bovis, 6 Peritonitis, 1 Abscess.
31 Mesenteries and Intestines	—	19 C. Bovis, 12 Peritonitis.

## Cows.

### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Carcass and all organs	3	Livers	4
Forequarters	2	Skirt	1
Heads and Tongues	3	Spleen	1
Lungs	7	Omentums and Stomachs	5
Heart	1	Mesenteries and Intestines	6

## DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

7 Carcasses and all organs	—	1 Septic Metritis, 3 Jöhnes Disease. 2 Pathological Emaciation, 1 Fever.
2 Part Hindquarters	—	1 Fracture, 1 Bruising.
1 Forequarter	—	1 Bruising.
21 Lungs	—	6 Hydatid Cysts, 7 Pleurisy, 8 Congested.
33 Livers	—	24 Distomatosis, 3 Cirrhosis, 2 Melanosis, 1 Cyst, 4 Angiomata.
7 Part Livers	—	7 Distomatosis.
4 Skirts	—	4 Pleurisy.
8 Spleens	—	8 Peritonitis.
5 Kidneys	—	4 Nephritis, 1 Necrosis.
2 Omentums and Stomachs	—	2 Peritonitis.



## DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS—Continued.

7 Mesenteries and Intestines	—	5 Peritonitis, 2 Jöhnes Disease.
1 Kidney Capsle	—	1 Oedema.
1 Udder	—	1 Mammitis
1 Head and Tongue	—	1 Actinomycosis.

## Sheep.

### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

37 Carcases and all offal	—	1 Fever, 5 Dropsy, 2 Multiple Abscesses, 1 Immaturity, 1 Septic Pericarditis, 20 Pathological Emaciation, 3 Bruising, 2 Septic Pneumonia, 1 Uracmia, 1 Septic Peritonitis.
22 Carcases (Ex-Scotland)	—	9 Dropsical and Emaciated, 13 Early Decomposition,
7 Legs	—	5 Bruising, 1 Abscess, 1 Swollen Joint.
2 Shoulders	—	2 Malformation.
1 Breast	—	1 Abscess.
2 Heads and Tongue	—	2 Abscesses.
1119 Lungs	—	473 Strongyli, 22 Pleurisy, 95 Pneumonia, 23 Hydatid Cysts, 356 Congestion, 150 Parasitic.
31 Hearts	—	20 Pericarditis, 11 Cysts.
18 Plueks	—	18 Cysts.
1310 Livers	—	228 Distomatosis, 757 Parasitic, 11 Degeneration, 302 Hydatid Cysts, 12 Cirrhosis.
55 Kidneys	—	55 Nephritis.
14 Kidney Fat	—	14 Fat Necrosis.
2 Mesenteries	—	2 Peritonitis.

## Calves.

### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Carcases and all offals	—	2
-------------------------	---	---

### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

8 Carcases and all offals	—	2 Immaturity, 3 Dropsy, 1 Bruising
1 Part Leg	—	1 Acute Fever, 1 Septic Pneumonia.
10 Livers	—	Oedema.
5 Lungs	—	5 Necrosis, 4 Cysts, 1 Oedema.
1 Heart	—	1 Congested, 4 Pneumonia.
		Pericarditis.

## Pigs.

### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Heads	69	Lungs	1
Omentums and Stomachs	12	Mesenteries and Intestines	12

## DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

2 Carcases and all offal	—	1 Oedema, 1 Fevered.
3 Legs	—	2 Fractured, 1 Bruising.
1 Shoulder	—	Abscess.
2 Loins	—	1 Abscess, 1 Fibrosis.
745 Lungs	—	158 Pneumonia, 38 Pleurisy, 542 Congested, 7 Parasitic.
261 Livers	—	8 Parasitic, 11 Degeneration, 138 Cirrhosis, 27 Peritonitis, 33 Hydatid Cysts, 25 Necrosis, 19 Hepatitis.
44 Hearts	—	Pericarditis.
118 Kidneys	—	62 Nephritis, 48 Cysts, 8 Oedema.
16 Spleens	—	Peritonitis.
16 Intestines and Stomachs	—	15 Peritonitis, 1 Parasitic.
5 Heads and Tongues	—	2 Bruising, 1 Fractured Jaw, 2 Abscess.

## CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, IN WHOLE OR PART, OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.

A perusal of the percentage figures over a period of years, proves interesting. There is a decline in the amount of Tuberculosis discovered in pigs and cattle, excluding cows. The number of cows infected with Tuberculosis, although showing a steady reduction in recent years, increased considerably during 1957. No Tuberculosis was found in sheep and lambs throughout the period (indeed it is rare for this disease to be discovered in sheep and lambs). Diseases other than Tuberculosis have again been variable but again, we have a distinct increase in relation to cows.

Bovine Cysticercosis is a parasitic condition found in cattle slaughtered in our Abattoirs, and one that has given much concern to Meat Inspectors during the last 10 years. The discovery of the disease in Scotland and in some parts of England and Wales during the War years, was believed to be due to the existence of thousands of prisoners of war. Polish and other Continental troops in Great Britain, these men having been affected with the tape worm stage of cysticercus bovis, passed out the ova of the tape worm with their faeces. The sewage from camps emptied on to grazing land resulted in the ova being picked up by cattle. It was considered probable, too, that infection could have been introduced by imported meat products. During the last 10 years, however, some of our infected cattle have been traced to definite areas and farms. Cattle from the same farms have been regularly discovered to be infected. Some of the cattle were found to have been grazed over areas of land which had been used for camping sites and on sewage contaminated pastures.

It will be noted from our yearly average figures that the disease affects the choicest animals—animals in the prime of condition—the figures being higher for young heifers and bullocks than those of old cows. There is, therefore, a substantial financial loss when animals are condemned because of this parasitic condition. More important still, there is the possible danger of infection to human beings. If infested meat is not adequately cooked, the small cyst in the meat can produce tape worms in humans. Sausages are, perhaps, a means whereby *cysticercus bovis* can be transmitted to human beings. A tape worm can attain the length of 25 to 30 feet or more and give rise to countless egg-containing segments which, being evacuated with human excreta, can again contaminate pasture land to complete a cycle of cattle infection. It is only by efficient and conscientious meat inspection at the abattoir, can we break this infection to humans. This should be followed by tracing the animal back to the farm where an investigation, followed by remedial measures, should be introduced.

A thorough inspection for this parasite is undertaken locally. The principal locations of the cysts and the order in which the parts are affected are:— (a) Head—inner and outer masticatory muscles; (b) Tongue—muscles of the root or base and (c) the Heart muscles. In severe infestation, however, they are met with in the oesophagus and diaphragm, intercostal and shoulder muscles and also the rump. They have a predilection for muscular tissue and are very rarely found in fatty or other tissue, but it should be borne in mind that their distribution is irregular, and an isolated colony of cysts may be found in an uninfested region. Even in slight infestations, cases have been recorded of isolated cysts having been found in such widely distributed parts as the lungs, liver, lymphatic glands, brain, etc.

The cysts vary in size from that of a millet seed to a pea, according to stage of growth. Having regard to their size and location in the animal carcase, it can be appreciated that inspection must be thorough if we are to ensure that no meat affected with *cysticercus bovis* leaves the abattoir.

The percentage figures for the various diseases over a period of years are as follows:—

### Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
1946	9.03	10.2	—	—	1.9
1947	5.39	22.0	.103	—	5.0
1948	4.13	29.2	.066	—	4.8
1949	12.86	29.5	.109	—	6.8
1950	11.2	24.4	.026	—	5.2
1951	8.63	30.6	.036	—	12.8
1952	7.41	20.57	.051	—	13.17
1953	7.98	15.74	.074	—	7.53
1954	4.63	9.14	.08	—	5.26
1955	7.79	8.21	—	—	3.64
1956	7.55	8.93	—	—	3.11
1957	3.53	16.66	.25	—	1.24

### Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
1946	29.3	10.4	.4	30.4	5.0
1947	44.5	35.5	.9	20.9	14.9
1948	39.5	62.8	.84	37.4	24.7
1949	48.0	56.8	1.34	41.36	34.5
1950	57.1	66.1	3.6	45.1	43.4
1951	58.19	62.2	5.5	50.0	53.99
1952	64.71	76.04	7.05	46.8	52.5
1953	53.0	63.3	5.26	43.76	50.3
1954	53.1	68.57	5.66	32.04	53.32
1955	40.2	80.67	6.6	18.24	26.25
1956	54.16	69.64	3.22	18.3	7.7
1957	48.82	84.72	3.51	19.88	27.04

### Bovine Cysticercosis.

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			Cows.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1948*	282	4	1.4	52	0	—
1949	1591	38	2.7	637	7	1.1
1950	2003	64	3.19	1078	43	3.99
1951	2629	66	2.51	677	8	1.19
1952	2171	75	3.45	409	10	2.24
1953	1991	38	1.91	578	6	1.03
1954	2590	33	1.27	525	4	0.76
1955	2015	20	0.99	207	4	1.93
1956	1549	18	1.17	56	1	1.78
1957	1415	19	1.34	72	—	—

## CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES.

It will be noticed in the return of meat condemned at the Abattoir that two calves were condemned, due to congenital Tuberculosis. Immediately a calf is discovered to be affected with Tuberculosis, we notify the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, giving the number and description of the calf.

Gradually, but surely, Tuberculosis is being eradicated from our dairy herds. In spite of all the efforts of the Ministry and their expert Officers, cows from our dairy herds still reach the Abattoir and are found by the Meat Inspector to be affected with Tuberculosis. This will be observed in the Tuberculosis percentage figures above. There may have been no clinical evidence, or cows may have been sent direct to the Abattoir, following inspection at the farm, or through some cause or other they may have escaped detection during routine inspection of dairy herds.

Co-operation between the Public Health Inspector at the Abattoir, or during his milk sampling activities, and the Veterinary Surgeon engaged in the eradication of Tuberculosis in our milking herds is, therefore, important and can be of considerable assistance in the early detection of Tuberculosis, or in discovering an infected animal that may have escaped detection.

## ATROPHIC RHINITIS ORDER, 1954.

Atrophic rhinitis has been added to the list of diseases scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950. This disease is of continental origin and was imported into the country with a consignment of pigs from the continent. The Order provides for the compulsory slaughter of infected pigs. A pig with head features resembling that of atrophic rhinitis was examined at the abattoir by officers of the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It was, however, eventually proved to be free from the disease. Continual check is being made for this disease amongst pigs slaughtered at the abattoir.

## UN SOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED OUTSIDE THE ABBATOIR DURING THE YEAR was as follows :—

### Tinned Milk/Cream.

*Cream*—1 x 5 ozs.; 5 x 6 ozs. *Evaporated Milk*—2 x 7 ozs.; 13 x 16 ozs.; 4 x  $\frac{3}{4}$  pint; 4 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pint; 2 x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pint; 26 x 2 pints. *Condensed Milk*—1 $\frac{1}{2}$  pints; 3 x  $1\frac{1}{4}$  pints.



## Tinned Vegetables.

*Peas*—27 x 10 ozs.; 2 x 10½ ozs.; 48 x 15 ozs.; 8 x 15½ ozs.; 10 x 16 ozs.; 4 x 19 ozs.; 1 x 19½ ozs.; 2 x 3 ozs.; 4 x 1 lb. 3 ozs.; 2 x 1 lb. 12 ozs.; 18 x 1 lb. 13 ozs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 12 ozs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 14 ozs. *Carrots*—1 x 8 ozs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 5 ozs. *Baked Beans*—2 x 16 ozs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 14 ozs. *Beans*—1 x 5 ozs.; 7 x 8 ozs.; 1 x 10 ozs. 11 x 16 ozs.; 1 x 19½ ozs. *Beetroot*—3 x 7½ ozs.; 2 x 19 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 3 ozs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 5 ozs. *Mixed Vegetables*—1 x 13 ozs.; 1 x 15 ozs.

## Tinned and Fresh Fish.

*Peeled Prawns*—8 lbs. *Mussels*—14 lbs. *Crab*—3 stones. *Haddock*—6 stones. *Bloaters*—3 stones. *Tuna*—4 x 7 ozs. *Pilchards*—1 x 3¾ ozs.; 1 x 7 ozs.; 3 x 14 ozs.; 11 x 16 ozs. *Salmon*—1 x 3¾ ozs.; 2 x 7½ ozs.; 2 x 7¾ ozs. *Crab*—1 x 3½ ozs.; 1 x 6½ ozs. *Crayfish*—1 x 6½ ozs. *Prawns*—1 x 7¾ ozs. *Sardines*—1 x 4½ ozs. *Scotch Herrings*—1 x 7 ozs.

## Fruit.

*Grapes*—3 x 16 ozs. *Grapefruit*—2 x 10 ozs.; 1 x 16 ozs.; 2 x 1 lb. 4 ozs. *Pineapples*—2 x 12 ozs.; 1 x 13 ozs.; 20 x 16 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 4 ozs.; 2 x 1 lb. 9 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 14 ozs. *Damsons*—2 x 1 lb. 4 ozs. *Peaches*—9 x 15 ozs.; 17 x 16 ozs.; 3 x 1 lb. 4 ozs.; 3 x 1 lb. 10 ozs.; 12 x 1 lb. 14 ozs.; 3 x 2 lbs.; 4 ozs. *Apricots*—32 x 15½ ozs.; 20 x 16 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 4 ozs.; 3 x 1 lb. 14 ozs.; 6 x 2 lbs. 8 ozs. *Pears*—3 x 11 ozs.; 15 x 14 ozs.; 13 x 15 ozs.; 26 x 16 ozs.; 2 x 1 lb. 10 ozs.; 16 x 1 lb. 14 ozs.; 5 x 2 lbs. 8 ozs. *Tomatoes*—11 x 7 ozs.; 68 x 8 ozs.; 46 x 13 ozs.; 52 x 14 ozs.; 8 x 15 ozs.; 167 x 16 ozs.; 3 x 1 lb. 2 ozs.; 20 x 1 lb. 4 ozs.; 54 x 2 lbs. 3 ozs. *Plums*—2 x 16 ozs.; 3 x 1 lb. 4 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 14 ozs.; 3 x 6 lbs. 7 ozs. *Fruit Salad*—1 x 9 ozs.; 5 x 15 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 3 ozs. *Blackcurrants*—2 x 15 ozs. *Mandarines*—1 x 9 ozs.; 15 x 11 ozs.; 4 x 12 ozs. *Cherries*—10 x 7 ozs.; 1 x 15 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 2 ozs. *Strawberries*—42 x 16 ozs. *Raspberries*—1 x 10 ozs.; 1 x 1 lb. 4 ozs. *Loganberries*—1 x 15 ozs. *Bananas*—2 x 14 ozs.

## Hams.

1 x 7 ozs.; 1 x 3 lbs. 8 ozs.; 1 x 3 lbs.; 12 ozs.; 1 x 5 lbs.; 1 x 6 lbs. 11 ozs.; 2 x 7 lbs.; 1 x 7 lbs. 13 ozs.; 1 x 8 lbs.; 4 ozs.; 1 x 9 lbs.; 7 ozs.; 1 x 9 lbs. 9 ozs.; 2 x 9 lbs. 15 ozs.; 1 x 10 lbs. 15 ozs.; 1 x 11 lbs. 8 ozs.; 2 x 11 lbs. 9 ozs.; 1 x 12 lbs. 8 ozs.; 3 x 12 lbs. 15 ozs.; 1 x 10 lbs. 9 ozs.; 1 x 13 lbs. 1 oz.; 3 x 13 lbs. 2 ozs.; 1 x 13 lbs. 4 ozs.; 1 x 13 lbs. 7 ozs.; 3 x 13 lbs. 11 ozs. 1 x 13 lbs. 15 ozs.; 1 x 14 lbs.; 3 x 14 lbs. 2 ozs.; 1 x 14 lbs. 4 ozs.; 1 x 14 lbs. 7 ozs.; 4 x 14 lbs. 14 ozs.; 1 x 15 lbs. 3 ozs.; 1 x 15 lbs. 5 ozs.; 1 x 15 lbs. 8 ozs.; 2 x 15 lbs. 10 ozs.; 1 x 16 lbs. 10 ozs.; 1 x 19 lbs. 8½ ozs. *Luncheon Meat*—13 x 7 ozs.; 10 x 12 ozs.; 1 x 14 ozs.; 18 x 4 lbs.; 2 x 5 lbs. 9 ozs. *Corned Beef*—9 x 12 ozs.; 2 x 14 ozs.; 2 x 1 lb.; 15 x 6 lbs. *Pork Brawn*—1 x 12 ozs.; 2 x 16 ozs.; 6 x 6 lbs. *Chopped Pork*—4 x 12 ozs. *Cooked Ham*—1 x 7 ozs. *Stewed Steak*—6 x 8 ozs.; 6 x 15 ozs.; 8 x 16 ozs.; 3 x 6 lbs. *Jellied Veal*—2 x 6 lbs. *Beef Loaf*—5 x 12 ozs. *Minced Meat Loaf*—5 x 12 ozs. *Ox Tongue*—11 x 6 lbs. *Lambs Tongue*—1 x 12 ozs. *Cooked Pork*—1 x 2 lbs. 9 ozs.

## **Food Quality, Description and Labelling.**

During the year 323 samples of various foods were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

Constant sampling over a wide range of foodstuffs is carried out in order to check that a proper level of quality and food value is maintained in accordance with the law and the standard set by reputable manufacturers. Emphasis on sampling of commodities varies from time to time with changing trends and practices in the food trade.

Your Inspectors are constantly looking out for misleading descriptions and labels on all articles of food which lend themselves to such treatment, e.g., extravagant claims as to beneficial effects of consumption of the particular foods, inferior fruit labelled as being of a more choice variety, absence of statement as to country of origin, thus applying that the food is English. Failure to specify the amounts of vitamins and minerals when such are claimed to be present, are now infringements of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

During the year, the attention of several green grocers was drawn to their failure to indicate the country of origin on imported fruit—particularly tomatoes.

## **FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS.**

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows :—

Milk 65; Sterilised Cream 1; Butter 4; Margarine 3; Lard 1; Sponge Mixture 1; Lemon Pie Filling 1; Self Raising Flour 2; Gravy Browning 5; Vinegar 4; Sauce 3; Essence of Anchovy 1; Salad Cream 2; White Pepper 2; Curry Powder 6; Paprika Pepper 1; Canned Soup 1; Canned Meat Product 6; Minced Turkey in Stock 3; Fish Cakes 2; Orange Juice 1; Tea 5; Coffee and Chicory Essence 1; Jam 3; Prepared Icing 1; Fruit Flavouring 2; Essence of Cochineal 1; Sugar Confectionery 3; Syrup of Figs 1; Alka-Seltzer 1; Influenza Tablets 1; Disprin Tablets 1; Aspirin Tablets 1; Cream 12; Mixed Spice 1; Canned Fruit 8; Brawn 1; Sausages 14; Fish Paste 4; Black Grape Jelly 1; Raspberry Flavouring 1; Dried Mixed Fruit 1; Vitamin Capsules 1; Bicarbonate of Soda 3; Shredded Beef Suet 4; Dripping 1; Peanut Butter 1; Pastry Mix. 1; Rice 1; Sago 1; Tapioca 1; Cake and Sponge Mixture 7; Dessert Powder 1; Baking Powder 3; Picalli 2; Salad Dressing 1; Picnic Mustard 1; Dried Sage 1; Dried Soup Powder 4; Canned Broth—1; Canned Fish 5; Canned Vegetables 2; Canned Pudding 2; Canned Tomato Juice 3; Minced Pork in Stock 1; Cheese Spread 6; Cheese and Tomato Spread 2; Soft Drink 1; Lemonade Crystals 1; Drinking Chocolate 1; Cocoa 1; Diabetic Marmalade 1; Flavouring Essence 1; Instant Icing 2; Cochineal Colouring 1; Table Jelly Compound 5; Dried

Fruit 1; Angelica 1; Cream of Tartar 1; Condensed Milk 2; Christmas Pudding 2; Custard Powder 2; Cornflour 1; Instant Whip 1; Gravy and Onion Salt 2; Oxo Cubes 1; Prepared Mustard 1; Ground Ginger 3; Ground Cinnamon 2; Ground Cloves 1; Ground Mixed Spice 1; Pickling Spice 1; Dried Parsley 1; Canned Potato Salad 1; Canned Peaches 1; Chicken Fillets in Chicken Jelly 1; Minced Chicken in Stock 1; Meat Pie 2; Faggot 1; Meat Paste 3; Potted Salmon 1; Sandwich Spread 1; Fish and Vegetable Savoury 1; Soft Drink Powder 1; Lemon Juice 1; Beer 4; Spirits 7; Dried Coffee and Chicory Extract 1; Jam and Jelly 2; Flavourings 7; Walnuts 1; Prepared Jelly 1; Icing Sugar 1; Dried Bananas 1; Dried Fruit 2; Mixed Peel 1; Vitamin Capsules 1; Cooking Fat 1; Ground Almonds 2; Marzipan 2; Marzipan Substitute 1.

Total number of samples	323
Genuine	320
Adulterated	3

The comparison with the previous years is as follows :—

Year	No. of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine
1947	176	166	10
1948	200	183	17
1949	249	249	—
1950	242	232	10
1951	229	220	9
1952	259	250	9
1953	274	267	7
1954	240	236	4
1955	300	299	1
1956	312	304	8
1957	323	320	3

It will be observed that the number of samples taken progressively increase each year, and since 1947 have nearly doubled.

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated 1954 46,000	7.0
Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	nil
Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	1.16
Percentage of all Foods not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	.93

### ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

There were only three samples reported upon during the year as being adulterated.

Two samples of pure thick cream (one informal and one formal) were taken, and in each case the Public Analyst reported that he was of the opinion that they were samples of sterilized cream incorrectly described as thick cream. The labels attached to the original containers declared a butter fat content of 24 per cent, whereas, according to the Food Standards (Cream) Order, 1951, thick cream must contain not less than 48 parts per cent (W/W) of butter fat. The butter fat contents of the formal and informal samples were 25.6 and 26.2 parts per cent (W/W).

The formal sample was followed up with the institution of legal proceedings against the retailer. The retailer put in a plea of guilty and a fine of £2 was imposed, with costs.

An informal sample of pork sausage was reported upon by the Public Analyst as not complying with the Public Health (Preservatives etc., in Food) Regulations 1925-53, in that it contained an excess of sulphur dioxide to the extent of 170 parts per million, since under the Regulations referred to, sausages should not contain any sulphur dioxide, unless there is a declaration to that effect.

Subsequent to receiving the Analyst's Report, it was found that the retailer had displayed the appropriate notice, but it had inadvertently fallen from the wall of the shop and was thus not noticeable when the informal sample was purchased. The circumstances arose during a change of manager at the shop and we felt satisfied that the non-display of the notice was accidental. No further action was, therefore, taken.

### THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS.

The regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% milk solids other than milk fat, it shall be presumed—until the contrary is proved—that the milk is not genuine. It is claimed that there is a steady decline in the composition of milk in various parts of the country. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1957, was as follows:—

Number of milk samples taken.	Milk fat Percentage.	Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
65	3.59%	8.68%

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows :—

Year	No. of milk samples examined	Milk fat percentage	Non-fatty solids— percentage
1947	124	3.30%	8.63%
1948	123	3.50%	8.45%
1949	98	3.56%	8.67%
1950	118	3.63%	8.68%
1951	126	3.49%	8.65%
1952	133	3.55%	8.65%
1953	128	3.62%	8.66%
1954	104	3.66%	8.63%
1955	84	3.53%	8.66%
1956	72	3.60%	8.76%

It will be seen from the above figures that the average composition of milk supplied locally is fairly constant. A working party was, some years ago, set up by the Government to examine this matter in relation to the price of milk. The working party found that there had been a deterioration in the composition of milk over the past 30 years and that there was every reason for taking steps to improve it. Although it was recognised that a better quality article should command a higher price, payment for milk on the basis of its compositional quality was considered to be impracticable on the grounds of cost and administrative difficulties.

For arresting this decline, the working party recommended that where poor quality milk was being produced, the farmer should be advised by the National Agricultural Advisory Service and should no improvement then occur, the Milk Marketing Board would give notice to the producer that if the milk did not improve within a specified time, his contract would be terminated.

### **Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925/1953**

All the samples of milk, cream, sterilized cream and condensed milk were free from preservatives.

The butter and margarine were found to be free from boric acid and the samples of vinegar contained not more than traces of arsenic.

The curry powder had lead contents varying from 1 p.p.m. to 2 p.p.m. (the maximum limit being 20 p.p.m.).

All the canned products contained not more than traces of tin, and the white pepper, paprika pepper, curry powder, drinking chocolate, cocoa, ground ginger, ground cloves, ground mixed spice, pickling spice, dried parsley, picnic mustard, dried sage, were all free of extraneous matters.

Samples of fish cakes, minced turkey in stock, fish and meat paste were found to be free from boric acid and sulphites, while the rice, sago, tapioca, cake, sponge mixture, dessert powder, diabetic marmalade, jam, instant icing, dried fruit, angelica, prepared icing, sugar confectionery, black grape jelly, dried mixed fruit, raspberry flavouring, Christmas pudding, cake and sponge mixture, Instant Whip, custard powder, cornflour, lemon juice, jelly, icing sugar, dried bananas and mixed peel, were free from sulphites.



Beef sausages, pork sausages, minced chicken in stock or jelly, minced turkey in stock, cheese spread, cheese and tomato spread and minced pork in stock, were found to be free from boric and acid.

The samples of sausages were within the limit for sulphur dioxide content of 450 p.p.m. (if declared) except in one instance, where the sample contained 170 p.p.m. of sulphur dioxide in the absence of a declaration as required by the regulations.

The samples of gravy browning, piccalilli, coffee and chicory essence, sauce and orange juice were found to be free from sulphites, benzoic and salicylic acids.

The teas were free from extraneous siliceous matters.

The beers were free from lead. Of the four samples taken, one was free from sulphites and the remainder had 16, 19 and 12 p.p.m. of sulphur dioxide respectively.

The shredded beef suet, ground almonds, marzipan substitute, peanut butter, pastry mix, salad dressing and lard were all free from rancidity.

**THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949-54. THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949-54. THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949-53.**

The production of milk at farms within the Borough is now supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This work is entrusted, in each County, to its Agricultural Executive Committee, which appoints a Milk Sub-Committee.

For over 14 years, I have been a member of this Milk Sub-Committee. This has provided me with an opportunity of appreciating the general standards associated with milk production throughout the County and particularly in our own Borough. Once the milk has left the farm, its quality, chemical and bacteriological, comes under our supervision.

As a result of the milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1955, Port Talbot was classified as a "Specified Area" in which milk of special designation only can be sold by



retail. Although excellent work has already been achieved in the eradication of Tuberculosis and other milk-borne diseases from our herds we are not yet guaranteed immunity from these diseases. The object of this Order is, therefore, to safeguard the general public from the possibility of being infected by such diseases. The sale of such milk is accordingly prohibited and producers who are not licensed to produce and sell Tuberculin Tested milk, are now obliged to forward all raw milk produced to an approved dairy, where it can be pasteurised.

Designated milks sold in our Borough are Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised milk.

The number of licences granted during 1957 for the sale of designated milks were :—

Pasteurised :—

(a) Dealers' Licences	24
(b) Supplementary Licences	4

Sterilised :—

(a) Dealers' Licences	20
(b) Supplementary Licences	4

Tuberculin Tested :—

(a) Dealers' Licences	26
(b) Supplementary Licences	4

All dairies where milk, or milk utensils were stored, were regularly inspected during the year. Judicious sampling of all milks sold from wholesale and retail establishments, and during delivery in various parts of the Borough, was undertaken during the year. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken and the result of such examination was as follows:—

Nature of Examination	Number submitted	Number satisfactory	Number not satisfactory
Adulteration	65	65	—
Bacterial Purity	84	78	6
Presence of Tuberculosis	40	40	—

## FOOD HYGIENE.

During past years, detailed particulars of every food premises were recorded and filed in the office. Food retailers and representatives of multiple firms were then interviewed on the premises and the requirements of our Clean Food Bye-laws pointed out. In many cases, builders and others were also met, and the necessary alterations and renovation of premises were agreed upon. The various sections of the food trades were then invited to meetings

presided over by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, at which the Public Health Inspectors were also present. The interpretation and application of our Clean Food Bye-laws were freely discussed. At these meetings, there was invariably a full appreciation of the Council's requirements in respect of food premises, and members of the trades were convinced that such requirements were justified and an advantage to the successful development of their business.

Having thus obtained the confidence and goodwill of the traders, we found that after the service of our notices on requirements, there was an excellent response.

Much time, energy and interest has been given to the raising of our local food standards and food hygiene generally. Countless evenings may have been considered sacrificed when lecturing on food hygiene to members of the food trades, public bodies, cultural and social organisations. From time to time, we have had a somewhat impatient feeling that results were not being manifested rapidly enough to give real appreciation of the efforts expended. We are, however, justifiably proud that the results are now becoming abundantly obvious. The average observant citizen must have noticed a considerable improvement in our local food premises during the last few years.

As a Borough, we are somewhat unique in that we have no open shops selling food. We have no road-side stalls and we have no food of any description exposed for sale on footways or in front of shops.

The introduction of hot and cold water supply and sinks to food stalls in the market, is also appreciated. The provision of sink and hot and cold water supply near the market entrance is also a satisfying feature and is used by market employees and others, who, whilst having no connection with food, have yet a regard for cleanliness and hygienic practice.

In the provision of other market improvements, the closing in of stalls has resulted in foods stored in these stalls being protected from contamination by dogs and vermin.

I have again to pay tribute to the interest and co-operation received by the officers of my department from your Market Superintendent in relation to food hygiene problems at the market and also at the several beach refreshment stalls.

It will be observed, in the section of this report recording work during the year, that substantial improvements have also been accomplished at many of our hotels and licenced houses. We are very pleased that so much has been achieved as a result of the co-operation and goodwill of the various food traders and that throughout the years, there has not been a single prosecution.

Whilst we have achieved much in relation to food premises and food hygiene generally, I have again to stress the need of a better appreciation of food hygiene practice amongst the general public, and particularly in the home. Contaminated hands have contributed to many serious outbreaks of food poisoning, yet there is much indifference to the frequent washing of hands. Indiscriminate coughing and sneezing near food is still practised. Storage of cooked and perishable foods at the home, still leaves much to be desired. There is still, in some quarters, a feeling that food hygiene is being pushed upon the public and there is still a little prejudice and resistance to change, and more than a little lack of foresight. All the good work achieved in the preparation, transport and sale of food can be of no avail unless there is an enlightened and appreciative interest amongst the general public.

When enquiries are made into food poisoning cases notified to the Local Authority by medical practitioners, it is surprising to find that food of excellent quality has been contaminated after delivery in the home, due to the disregard for elementary food hygiene practice. All the considerable activities of local health authorities and Central Government are frustrated at the very point where they were intended to be effective, and by the very people such activities were intended to protect.

As we have concentrated on propaganda and co-operation within the food trade, so we must continue with the general public. In this respect, we shall persevere with our lectures and talks to various social and cultural organisations and, from time to time, publicise food hygiene information and instruction, trusting that we shall finally capture the interest of the general public, so that it may, for its own safety, develop and acquire higher aesthetic and food hygiene standards.

## **Smoking, etc., in Food Premises.**

Section 9 (e) of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, requires persons to refrain from the use of tobacco (including snuff) whilst handling any open foods or being in any food room in which there is open food. Our attention has been drawn to customers smoking on food premises. The regulation does not, however, appear to apply to customers. We have, nevertheless, advised occupiers of food premises that they would be entitled to request their customers to refrain from smoking. The person who handles food does not readily appreciate that he should be subjected to this prohibition when the customer is not. We can readily appreciate this reaction when we enter a large food store or crowded restaurant and find dozens of people smoking. Seeing other smoking, is also a considerable temptation to a food handler who is also a smoker. Few people appear to realise that one of the principal reasons for this regulation is that the use of tobacco or snuff brings the fingers into close contact with a mouth or nose—both possible reservoirs of food poisoning germs. Therefore, the person who smokes whilst handling food will, under the circumstances, undoubtedly contaminate his hands and further contaminate the food he is about to handle, unless, of course, he immediately thoroughly washes his hands before serving further food.

The habit of smoking is so wide-spread, and so ingrained, that it presents a constant hazard. The regulation is, however, fairly well observed throughout the Borough and only in three cases were we obliged to issue warnings during the year.

## **WATER SUPPLIES.**

Three hundred and thirteen samples of water were taken by your Inspectors for bacteriological examination, and three for chemical examination. The majority of these were taken at points throughout the area that would provide for a satisfactory check on the purity of the Borough's water supplies. Sampling of drinking water was also undertaken at various works, railway and dock installations, farms, public baths, cafes, ice-cream premises, Baglan Camp and even from the stand-pipe at the extremity of the promenade at the Aberavon Beach. Sixteen additional samples of water were taken from the River Ffrwdwyllt for chemical and bacteriological examination, in order to assist experiments taking place for the filtration and treatment of such water as a potential supply during periods of drought.

Of the three hundred and sixteen samples taken from the various supplies, sixty-five failed to reach the bacterial standard required. Fourteen of these were from a local works, dependent



upon a private supply obtained from wells. Following substantial pumping of the same water-bearing stratum by powerful pumps in an adjoining industry, the water supply was discovered to be unsatisfactory. Chlorination as a temporary expedient proved successful, but arrangements were made to supply the works with a local authority supply. Our mains were accordingly extended over a considerable distance in order to do so.

The remaining fifty-one unsatisfactory results were from samples of water taken from the following:—

10 Private Supplies (Before Chlorination).

22 Local Authority Emergency Supplies.  
(Before Chlorination).

19 from Local Authority Supplies.

The local authority supplies are, of course, chlorinated and, therefore, immediate investigation is undertaken when sampling results do not give the required bacteriological standard. Any remedial action is followed by repeat sampling and supervision continues until satisfactory sampling results are obtained.

All the sampling results were examined by the Medical Officer of Health and copies forwarded to the Borough Surveyor.

### **RENT ACT, 1957.**

The history of the Rent Act dates back to 1915, when Parliament imposed restrictions on the increases of rent of unfurnished residential property then being made by landlords, and in the rate of interest on a mortgage of such property, particularly in towns where munitions were being made for World War I. The Statutes in the present series of legislation known collectively as "The Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920 to 1939," which were amended in 1949, 1951, 1952, 1954 and 1955, have now been subjected to a major revision by the Rent Act of 1957. This Act received Royal Assent on the 6th June, 1957 and came into force on the 6th July, 1957.

The Act has the general objectives of enabling rented houses and flats to be put and kept in repair. The provisions allowing for the increase, within limits, of the rents of houses remaining in control, are coupled with machinery dealing with repairs. The standard of repair has to be such as will secure the remedying of defects which ought, reasonably, to be remedied, having due regard to the age, character and locality of the dwelling. There are also provisions relating to the de-control of unfurnished houses. The Act provides that for a dwelling de-controlled by the reduction in the rateable value limit for control, there shall be a "stand-still" period of 15 months on rent and possession. No tenant can be evicted during this period (except on ordinary Rent Act grounds). Nor can his rent be put up (except in respect of increased rates)

unless, during the 15 months, landlord and tenant agree on a new Lease of at least 3 years, which would then take effect. If there is no such agreement, and if the landlord asks for possession, he must give six months notice, which cannot expire earlier than 6th October, 1958. Tenants affected by the de-controlled provisions of this Act, may ask Local Authorities for assistance. It is important that tenants should clearly understand their position under the Act, and the Minister looks to Authorities to help them by giving all the information they can.

It is significant that since the operation of this Act, complaints received in the department from tenants occupying houses in a state of dis-repair, have shown a marked reduction. I would assume that in countless cases, owners have approached the tenants to ascertain what work is required to make their houses habitable and comfortable, and this has been followed by a mutual and amicable agreement on an increase in the rental without recourse to the serving of notices.

Advice has been readily given by members of my department, to both owners and occupiers. We find this approach producing better owner-occupier relationship and avoids much statutory action.

Nine Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year.

### **INSPECTION OF CORPORATION HOUSES.**

An inspection of groups of Council houses is undertaken by the department. Inspection is also made of all Corporation houses during change or termination of tenancy. Such inspection is concerned with the maintenance of general cleanliness and the detection and eradication of vermin. A total of seven hundred and eighty-four houses were examined (three hundred and twelve during change or termination of tenancy) in 21 houses, unsatisfactory conditions were discovered Notices served upon the occupiers and reported to the Housing Manager. When unsatisfactory conditions are discovered, the occupier is called upon to take the necessary steps towards an improvement. Every assistance is given by the department by way of advice, provision of fumigants and in extreme cases, disinfection is undertaken.

### **Land Charges Act, 1925.**

Solicitors acting on behalf of clients purchasing houses, enquire by application to the Town Clerk as to the existence of any charges, notices of repair or dilapidations or the proposals of the local authority in respect of such houses. Three hundred and ninety-two enquiries relating to such properties were received from the Town Clerk's Department, and dealt with during the year.



## **Public Abattoir.**

The general conditions at the Public Abattoir have been fully reported upon in previous annual reports. These premises meet our needs until a modern abattoir can be provided. This is an urgent necessity. Throughout the years, Council has been aware of the shortcomings associated with our abattoir and the need for a modern premises.

Particulars of diseased and unsound meat condemned at our abattoir are found under the heading of "Meat and Food Inspection."

A total of 11,047 animals was killed and examined during the year, the figures for the previous ten years being as follows:—

1947	—	14,920	1952	—	26,058
1948	—	14,519	1953	—	27,383
1949	—	19,519	1954	—	44,497
1950	—	21,132	1955	—	30,693
1951	—	23,924	1956	—	18,721

It will be seen that there is a considerable reduction in the number of animals slaughtered at the abattoir. In fact, it is about 25 per cent of that slaughtered only three years previously.

Detailed weekly figures for the year are shown on the following page:—

## **Handling and Transport of Meat.**

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 replace clauses 19/21 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, which dealt with the transport of meat. The clauses in the new regulations came into operation on 1st July, 1955. Every opportunity was taken to explain their responsibilities to local meat firms and butchers. The general conditions in connection with the handling and transport of meat within the borough are reasonably good. It was, however, noted that occasionally, meat transport methods were used which could lead to action being taken for contravention of the Regulations and warnings were given in a few cases.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924 AND SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933-1954.**

Arrangements between the slaughterhouse Manager and your Inspectors worked very harmoniously during the year. The times of slaughtering varied considerably. In spite of the fact that the number of animals slaughtered were considerably reduced, the Inspectors had to be present at the abattoir throughout the whole period of slaughtering, and were still obliged to work late into the evenings and often at week-ends. In no single instance was it necessary to issue a warning or corrective during the year for the provisions of the Regulations and Slaughter of Animals Acts were complied with in every respect.

# ANNUAL SLAUGHTERHOUSE RETURNS.

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1957 were as follows :—

1957 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS				Cows		CALVES		SHEEP		Pigs	
	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total
Jan. 6	196	196	21	21	2	2	40	40	89	89	44	44
13	299	495	37	58	8	10	26	66	150	239	78	122
20	343	838	42	100	2	12	25	91	192	431	82	204
27	273	1111	31	131	6	18	20	111	144	575	72	276
Feb. 3	231	1342	30	161	14	32	23	134	88	663	76	352
10	186	1528	28	189	10	42	24	158	41	704	83	435
17	152	1680	35	224	4	46	15	173	22	726	76	511
24	211	1891	28	252	—	46	19	192	71	797	93	604
March 3	178	2069	29	281	—	46	21	213	40	837	88	692
10	178	2247	22	303	—	46	21	234	31	868	104	796
17	123	2370	23	326	—	46	21	255	1	869	78	874
24	186	2556	23	349	—	46	26	281	42	911	95	969
31	138	2694	15	364	—	46	22	303	17	958	54	1023
April 7	134	2828	23	387	—	46	24	327	27	985	60	1083
14	172	3000	20	407	—	46	19	346	79	1064	54	1137
21	157	3157	12	419	—	46	28	374	85	1149	32	1169
28	159	3316	23	442	—	46	9	383	84	1233	43	1212
May 5	196	3512	22	464	—	46	15	398	125	1358	34	1246
12	210	3722	23	487	1	47	18	416	122	1480	46	1292
19	245	3967	23	510	—	47	11	427	159	1639	52	1344
26	260	4227	21	531	—	47	9	436	177	1816	53	1397
June 2	260	4487	—	538	—	47	11	447	202	2018	40	1437
9	307	4794	14	552	—	47	9	456	234	2252	50	1487
16	307	5101	20	572	—	47	6	462	242	2494	39	1526
23	305	5406	16	588	—	47	12	474	277	2771	—	1526
30	435	5841	22	610	—	47	8	482	386	3157	19	1545
July 7	465	6306	19	629	—	47	4	486	422	3579	20	1565
14	454	6760	20	649	—	47	14	500	406	3985	14	1579
21	425	7185	22	671	2	49	12	512	366	4351	23	1602
28	431	7616	29	700	—	49	12	524	358	4709	32	1634
Aug. 4	395	8011	27	727	—	49	9	533	333	5042	26	1660
11	490	8501	22	749	—	49	3	536	436	5478	29	1689
18	472	8973	29	778	—	49	13	549	395	5873	35	1724
25	427	9400	36	814	1	50	4	553	326	6199	60	1784

# Annual Slaughterhouse Returns—Continued.

1957 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS						COWS						CALVES						SHEEP						PIGS					
	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total	Weekly Total	Grand Total
Sept. 1	424	9824	27	841	1	51	1	51	5	558	339	6538	52	1836																
8	356	10180	33	874	2	53	2	53	12	570	280	6818	29	1865																
15	405	10585	35	909	1	54	1	54	1	571	313	7131	55	1920																
22	370	10955	30	939	1	55	1	55	5	576	269	7400	65	1985																
29	390	11345	37	976	—	55	—	55	5	581	285	7685	63	2048																
Oct. 6	447	11792	35	1011	1	56	1	56	31	612	313	7998	67	2115																
13	446	12238	31	1042	—	56	—	56	29	641	330	8328	56	2171																
20	478	12716	36	1078	—	56	—	56	28	669	342	8370	72	2243																
27	444	13160	27	1105	4	60	4	60	22	691	316	8686	75	2318																
Nov. 3	359	13519	40	1145	—	60	—	60	28	719	214	8900	77	2395																
10	380	13599	33	1178	2	62	2	62	14	733	267	9167	64	2459																
17	489	14088	34	1212	2	64	2	64	17	750	355	9522	81	2540																
24	430	14518	35	1247	2	66	2	66	—	750	298	9820	95	2635																
Dec. 1	424	14942	39	1286	2	68	2	68	18	768	274	10094	91	2726																
8	403	15345	33	1319	—	68	—	68	—	768	265	10359	105	2831																
15	407	15752	29	1348	2	70	2	70	7	775	266	10625	103	2934																
22	486	16238	36	1384	—	70	—	70	2	777	273	10898	175	3109																
31	229	16467	31	1415	2	72	2	72	20	797	149	11047	27	3136																

## Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part during 1957.

Number Killed Number Inspected	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned	4	7	8	38	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	688	54	20	2,159	848
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	48.82	84.72	3.51	19.88	27.04
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	3	2	—	39
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	47	9	—	—	1.24
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.53	16.66	.25	—	—
CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	19	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	1.34	—	—	—	—

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Much of the time of the department was again given to conditions giving rise to atmospheric pollution. The recordings from our deposit gauges and our lead peroxide instruments over a period of years, are shown in the following pages. From these figures of dust and soot pollution over a period of five and a half years, we are able to appreciate what progress, if any, has been made during this period towards a reduction of the heavy pollution we experienced in 1952. When comparing these figures, however, due regard must be paid to the substantial developments and extensions that have been introduced in the Margam area in the last four years. One of the largest blast furnaces in Europe has come into production. There is also the Sinter plant and the additional batteries of coke ovens. Our deposit and sulphur gauges are sited at the following places: Aberavon Hospital, near Port Talbot Football Field and Regent Cinema, Taibach. The deposit gauges of the Steel Company of Wales are sited at: Employment Exchange, Port Talbot; Talbot Park, Port Talbot and the Steel Company of Wales General Offices. Therefore, from the Aberavon area to Groes are sited six deposit gauges and three sulphur gauges, the recordings of which should reasonably reflect the atmospheric pollution over much of the residential area of the Borough.

We include, for the first time in our Annual Report, the recordings from the Steel Company of Wales' deposit gauges. The Management, by arrangement, supply us with their monthly records and we furnish in return our records of both sulphur and deposit gauges. Nothing happened during the year to give rise to figures in excess of 100 tons to the square mile as in the three previous years. The general average monthly figures are still, nevertheless, too high and should show a substantial reduction over that recorded during the year.

Arising out of representations made to the Steel Company of Wales at the beginning of 1957, we were assured that the Management had constantly before it the question of a reduction of atmospheric pollution. We were assured of continued costly experimentation towards a reduction of pollution from the coke ovens. There was authorisation of £ $\frac{1}{4}$  million expenditure on special de-dusting equipment at the Sinter plant. It was also submitted that the blast furnaces had been brought under very close control, due to improvement of the Sinter quality, and the number of openings of bleeders had been immensely reduced.

# DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

MONTH	TOWN CENTRE.					TAIBACH.			ABERAVON		
	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956. 1957.
January .....	17.76	22.48	17.84	27.76	35.60	43.70	38.05	45.48	283.9	86.95	— ° 33.20
February .....	20.68	19.56	13.43	12.28	26.14	94.28	45.89	33.74	67.66	63.79	— 14.68 29.72
March .....	18.54	19.56	30.72	12.74	30.36	54.20	53.66	51.12	38.12	86.20	— 26.04 30.39
April .....	16.60	10.50	22.36	19.93	9.95	45.35	38.22	69.39	54.14	26.52	18.95 14.44 9.08
May .....	15.41	19.27	28.69	15.84	18.86	47.32	47.26	99.06	51.26	88.03	36.71 11.96 17.20
June .....	19.00	24.10	28.75	19.29	14.06	54.20	62.25	128.39	49.63	32.54	24.35 17.16 14.09
July .....	33.06	26.05	20.80	21.77	21.25	91.60	82.60	64.34	41.65	57.19	15.80 22.27 22.63
August .....	38.69	25.63	20.35	30.49	23.18	459.80	110.25	76.39	72.78	41.81	16.92 20.81 31.19
September.....	14.07	36.12	35.56	19.66	25.13	106.62	69.63	137.23	66.56	56.74	23.66 25.62 25.32
October .....	24.72	23.61	29.89	19.33	28.32	81.03	47.36	108.51	42.12	90.41	27.54 24.95 32.48
November.....	13.07	24.10	36.75	14.42	14.39	35.18	61.28	97.99	32.20	23.69	32.70 19.05 17.16
December.....	22.17	11.92	23.87	33.79	36.39	45.07	25.40	47.90	85.58	63.75	39.18 49.11 25.81
	112.72	262.42	287.94	297.14	247.30	283.63	727.70	698.14	869.81	1,186.23	235.81 246.09 288.27

°No result—broken bottle.



# DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

MONTH	PARK, PORT TALBOT		EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE		GENERAL OFFICES, BLOCK C. ABBEE WORKS.	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
January	54.78	61.05	56.95	57.85	55.75	98.26
February	17.87	30.86	23.90	37.83	17.41	63.02
March	15.30	24.09	19.91	31.39	30.50	17.97
April	36.43	11.28	29.18	47.03	27.26	11.70
May	26.88	25.04	24.00	27.22	30.28	27.20
June	32.29	15.53	37.11	22.52	31.29	18.73
July	27.54	42.19	24.68	39.44	57.21	60.61
August	55.97	26.72	56.93	53.08	39.14	87.94
September	64.63	27.50	42.32	39.95	47.97	51.68
October	25.13	45.97	30.29	22.99	34.34	62.02
November	20.86	18.65	29.89	24.31	46.38	22.91
December	58.48	41.27	54.60	39.91	59.50	52.73
Totals	485.16	370.06	429.76	445.52	517.03	574.77



# SULPHUR POLLUTION RECORDS

(Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method).

Month	1951			1952			1953			1954			1955			1956			1957		
	Town Centre	Groes	Town Centre	Groes	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	Town Centre	Tailbach	
January	1.88	0.44	1.31	0.67	This Station came into being on the 1/8/52	1.42	1.32	1.42	1.21	1.80	1.51	—	1.44	1.42	1.15	1.57	3.58	0.92			
February	2.08	0.40	1.43	0.65		1.86	1.13	1.47	1.23	1.10	1.03	—	1.22	1.08	1.28	1.51	1.76	1.49			
March	1.52	0.46	0.92	0.41		1.79	2.04	1.26	1.10	0.92	1.12	—	1.22	1.12	2.09	1.31	1.33	1.55			
April	1.66	0.43	1.08	0.34		1.02	0.92	0.99	0.98	0.89	1.06	0.68	1.03	1.17	0.75	0.76	0.83	0.62			
May	0.74	0.26	0.75	0.25		1.00	0.94	1.03	0.79	1.28	1.86	0.76	0.86	0.90	0.52	0.94	0.90	0.60			
June	1.41	0.33	1.08	0.36		1.23	0.74	1.16	0.82	0.98	1.01	0.69	1.09	1.54	0.50	0.84	0.68	0.39			
July	1.27	0.25	0.66	0.45		1.36	1.78	1.14	0.82	0.60	0.66	0.30	1.02	1.58	0.59	0.89	1.62	0.45			
August	1.03	0.15	0.77	Station dis- continued & transferred to Tailbach — 31/7/52		0.82	0.69	0.90	0.69	0.64	0.72	0.57	0.95	1.31	0.44	0.91	1.04	0.68			
September	0.96	0.25	0.88			1.02	1.15	1.22	1.31	1.12	1.12	0.87	0.65	0.94	1.25	0.94	1.07	0.99	0.68		
October	1.09	0.44	1.43			0.84	0.94	1.76	3.29	1.34	1.34	0.85	0.86	1.05	1.27	0.75	1.30	1.91	0.89		
November	1.66	0.46	1.23		1.66	1.64	1.45	2.05	1.31	1.31	1.13	0.89	1.12	1.07	1.19	1.83	1.14	1.31			
December	1.61	0.52	1.40		1.47	1.42	1.59	1.40	1.27	1.27	1.81	1.18	1.20	1.59	1.22	1.22	1.75	1.31			
					1.37	1.39															

The mean monthly seasonal figures are as follows: —

	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer
1951	1.08	1.39	0.83	1.54	1.15	1.39	1.09	1.37	0.924	1.282	0.972	1.29	0.90	1.29	0.90	1.29	0.90
Town Centre	0.248	0.542	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Groes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taibach	—	—	—	1.47	1.06	1.32	0.89	1.42	1.024	1.312	1.316	1.312	1.316	1.77	1.01	1.77	1.01
Aberavon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
This Station came into being on the 1st April, 1955																	
	1.08	1.39	0.83	1.54	1.15	1.39	1.09	1.37	0.924	1.282	0.972	1.29	0.90	1.29	0.90	1.29	0.90

## ANNUAL RAINFALL AND SUNSHINE RECORDS.

An examination of the recorded figures prove interesting. There is an increase in both rainfall and sunshine over that recorded in 1956. An examination of months giving maximum sunshine and a minimum rainfall may revise our ideas of holiday dates. There was more rainfall recorded at each station for the three monthly period of July, August and September than for the period January, February and March.

We may understand the recording of sunshine in hours, but rainfall in inches is not so readily appreciated. A rainfall of one inch is, however, equivalent to nearly 101 tons of water to the acre. One tone of water equals 224 gallons, or nearly 36 cubic feet. An inch of rain implies 64,640 tons, or 14,479,360 gallons of rain per square mile.

The total of 1476.7 hours of sunshine compared favourably with (and in some cases exceeded) that recorded at some of our well known holiday resorts for 1957.

# PORT TALBOT RAINFALL (Rainfall in inches).

	Town Centre 1954	Town Centre 1955	Town Centre 1956	Town Centre 1957	Groes 1954	Groes 1955	Groes 1956	Groes 1957	Tailbach 1954	Tailbach 1955	Tailbach 1956	Tailbach 1957	Gen. Hosp. 1955	Gen. Hosp. 1956	Gen. Hosp. 1957
January	3.48	2.47	5.32	3.52	4.18	3.36	5.52	3.67	3.15	2.77	5.0	3.03	—	°	3.76
February	4.39	2.40	0.32	4.71	5.16	2.87	0.34	4.72	4.67	2.27	0.24	4.47	—	0.35	4.93
March	2.96	2.27	1.45	5.06	3.92	2.4	1.84	5.26	3.31	2.33	1.45	4.40	—	1.45	5.36
April	1.08	3.01	1.75	0.36	1.11	3.33	1.75	0.43	1.06	2.71	1.50	0.24	2.96	1.52	0.34
May	2.00	4.67	1.17	1.92	2.36	4.13	1.41	2.24	2.08	4.27	0.99	1.85	4.76	1.28	1.91
June	4.56	5.46	2.12	0.64	5.31	5.13	2.75	1.03	4.74	5.23	1.92	0.73	5.84	2.58	0.94
July	5.91	0.51	4.33	3.69	5.73	0.84	4.13	3.97	5.06	0.59	4.55	3.37	0.78	4.17	3.89
August	5.15	0.78	5.83	4.31	4.73	0.81	5.33	4.37	4.69	0.69	5.15	4.38	0.94	5.27	4.46
September	5.84	2.63	4.93	6.05	7.02	2.03	5.39	6.94	5.41	.94	4.84	6.28	2.64	5.03	5.82
October	5.86	2.23	1.07	4.50	7.89	2.30	1.28	4.44	6.19	2.15	0.77	3.99	2.27	1.20	4.77
November	5.99	3.54	1.22	2.10	9.73	4.16	1.34	2.06	6.21	3.92	1.0	1.89	4.36	1.07	2.04
December	4.21	6.03	4.28	2.57	4.34	7.37	5.59	2.65	3.95	6.24	5.41	2.30	5.82	5.77	2.66
Totals	51.4	36.00	33.88	39.42	61.57	38.37	36.67	41.78	50.52	35.11	32.82	37.03	30.37	29.69	40.88

° No Result Broken Bottle

## PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE

(Sunshine in Hours).

	Groes 1954	Groes 1955	Groes 1956	Groes 1957
January	67.0	37.5	50.2	49.6
February	79.3	86.1	97.8	91.4
March	108.3	173.7	163.0	84.3
April	214.0	158.4	176.4	172.2
May	163.0	202.7	228.1	205.2
June	132.3	81.6	153.6	288.3
July	85.9	252.6	146.7	147.4
August	128.2	212.5	177.4	147.4
September	53.8	162.3	74.3	90.0
October	53.5	119.9	95.0	82.4
November	36.8	82.6	60.1	62.3
December	37.4	21.9	22.5	56.2
Totals	1259.5	1591.8	1445.1	1476.7

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The following is a report of the work carried out during the year.

Our sewers, refuse dumps and numerous dwelling houses and business premises were treated for rat infestation during the year. Subject to our administrative arrangement being in conformity with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food requirements, a grant of 50% of our total irrecoverable expenditure is made by the Ministry towards our rodent destruction work.

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

### Report for Twelve Months Ended 31st March, 1958.

Name of Local Authority: PORT TALBOT. County: GLAMORGAN.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
	NON-AGRICULTURAL		All Other (inc. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricul- tural (5)
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling- houses (inc. Council houses) (2)			
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	25	14099	2126	16250	85
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification	9	242	47	298	7
(b) Survey under the Act	6	377	10	393	20
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose...	—	399	75	474	19
III. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily avail- able)	218	4473	735	5426	207
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. 11) which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rates: Major	15	24	21	60	9
Minor	—	483	13	496	10
(b) Mice: Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	4	1	5	—
V. No. of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should not exceed those given at Sec. IV)	15	511	35	561	19
VI. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments (to be completed only if figures are readily available)	15	619	57	691	27
VII. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act—					
(a) Treatment	—	4	5	9	2
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing	—	4	5	9	2
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of notice under Sec. 4 of the Act....	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal Proceedings (see overleaf)	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

## Nature and Number of Baits Laid.

Pre-poisoning baits	21,060
Poison Baits:—Zinc Phosphide	2,696
Tomarin	2,118
Warfarin	86
Arsenious Oxide	470

## Maintenance Treatment of Rats in Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer manholes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treatments during 1957 are as follows:—

TEST BAITING.	May/June, 1957	Dec., 1957
No of manholes tested	233	298
No. showing bait taken	150	114
TREATMENT.		
No. of manholes baited	367	455
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	182	377
No. of manholes showing com-bait take	81	267
BAIT USED.	Sausage Rusk & Zince Phosphide.	Bread Mash & Arsenious Oxide.

We treat private dwellings free of charge to the occupier, unless, of course, there is gross negligence contributing to the rat infestation. Work is undertaken on business and industrial premises subject to the re-imbursement of the cost of such work to the local authority. The Council costs include the time of the Rodent Operative, plus the cost of material, plus 30% establishment charge.

On several occasions during the year we experienced Rodent Infestation affecting local authority and private premises where the infestation extended to land and premises owned by the British Transport Commission. On these occasions joint treatment arrangements were carried out and we are appreciative of the co-operation we experience from The British Transport Commission and its Rodent Officer.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of common lodging houses have, over a period of years, reduced in number from seven to two. These two premises are situated—one in Cwmavon Road and the other at Greenpark. These are registered annually.

Common lodging houses require constant supervision to ensure that a reasonable standard of cleanliness and sanitation is maintained. Fifty-five visits of inspection were made during the year—some of these visits have been made late at night.

The lodging house at Green park is included in our Second Year Programme of Slum Clearance, the Statutory Resolutions for which will have been passed by Council by the time this report is received.

A check on the number of lodgers kept at these houses is made from time to time. The number of beds and the average number of lodgers for both lodging houses during the year was as follows:—

Premises	No. of beds allowed	No. of Lodgers accommodated	Amount of spare accommodation
40/42, Cwmavon Road .....	55	8	47
55/57, Green Park .....	52	27	25
	107	35	72

It will be appreciated from the foregoing particulars that more than ample loding house accommodation exists in the Borough.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trades in the area are those of fat melting and extracting, and rag and bone collection. Forty-one visits of inspection were made during the year.

## CINEMAS.

A total of 47 visits of inspection was made to the five cinemas of the Borough. These are licensed annually when reports of Officers of Council and the Fire Service Officer of the Glamorgan County Council are considered at a meeting of the Cinema Licensing Committee. The attention of the Committee is directed to the structural condition, suitability and sufficiency of ventilation, heating, lighting, condition of cleanliness and means of protection and escape from fire, etc. It is gratifying to report that the general hygienic condition of our cinemas during 1957 was very satisfactory.



## FACTORIES.

The activities of your Sanitary Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937 and 1948 were as follows :—

### 1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)	Inspection (2)	Number of written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
262	461	5	—

### 2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND						Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted	
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector			
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	9	9	—	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—							
(a) Insufficient	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	17	18	—	4	—	—	—

Work carried out during the year was :—

Cleansing carried out	9
W.C. accommodation improved	4
W.C's. repaired	3
Ventilation improved	1
Structural repairs	4

## SLUM CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES.

### FIRST YEAR'S SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME— CLEARANCE AREAS.

The result of the Public Inquiry held by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in December, 1957, was as follows:—

1. Borough of Port Talbot.  
Clearance Area No. 1).

**Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1957.**

Charles Street.  
Mountain Row.  
Craddock Street.

The Minister is satisfied that No. 2 Charles Street is unfit for habitation, but forming part of No. 3 Cwmavon Road, its demolition would cause undue hardship to the owner and the occupier of No. 3 Cwmavon Road. No. 2 Charles Street has, therefore, been excluded. The Order is otherwise confirmed.

2. Borough of Port Talbot.  
(Clearance Area No. 2)

**Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1957.**

Wern Place.  
Picton Street.

No. 2 Picton Street forms part of the passageway entering the flat at the rear of 67 High Street, and although the Minister is satisfied that it is unfit for human habitation, feels that its demolition would cause undue hardship to the occupants of the flat and has excluded No. 2 Picton street. A part of a garage and store belonging to Mr. Phillips, forming part of Wern Place has also been excluded. Order is otherwise confirmed.

3. Borough of Port Talbot  
(Clearance Area No. 3).

**Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1957.**

Richard Street.

Order is confirmed, without modification.

4. Borough of Port Talbot.  
(Clearance Area No. 4).

**Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1957.**

Wern Square.

Order is confirmed, without modification.

Recommendations for payment in respect of certain well maintained houses have been made by the Minister.

The Minister's decision in respect of these properties has certainly vindicated the standards we have adopted in determining

the standard of fitness of our sub-standard houses. In no single house were our standards questioned. It is gratifying to me to report that I have not adopted a too arbitrary standard. On the other hand, in the interest of the integrity of public administration, the final decision is one that has been arrived at following a Public Inquiry, and a thorough inspection by a professional Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Any error, abuse or miscalculation by Council or its Officers, which may have prejudiced any householder or occupier has, therefore, been thoroughly examined, and every person has been encouraged to express concern or grievance for examination and enquiry by the Minister and his Officers.

Apart from our co-operation with the Housing Manager towards the re-housing of families from unfit houses, the work of my department in respect of our First Year Slum Clearance Programme has now been completed. Orders were made, during the year, in respect of the following:-

### FIRST YEAR PROGRAMME.

1.—Individual Unfit Houses.		No. of Houses.
(a) Closing Orders	11	
(b) Demolition Orders	45	56
2.—Housing in Clearance Areas.		
Wern Square	51	
Wern Place	15	
Picton Street	18	
Richard Street	21	
Mountain Row	9	
Craddock Street	5	
Charles Street	9	128
Total		<hr/> 184

## SECOND YEAR PROGRAMME.

The Second Year Programme of Slum Clearance includes the following areas:---

	No. of Houses
Cwmavon Road	4
Talbot Street and Cwmavon Road	4
Green Park Street	54
Pantdu	43
Total	105

Before this report is received, the necessary Statutory Resolutions declaring these areas to be Clearance areas will have been passed by Council.

I am very satisfied with the progress made to carry through the necessary Statutory Orders in relation to sub-standard dwelling-houses. I would, however, respectfully urge upon Council the need for a quickening in its building of new houses to re-house the occupants of these unfit dwellings, many of whom are living under totally unsatisfactory conditions.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The investigation of the general conditions associated with cases of infectious disease notified is undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors. The isolation of patients, contacts and possible source of infection is checked. Cases are sometimes reported which afterwards prove to be negative. All reported cases are, therefore investigated and disinfection and other precautions carried out, regardless of whether they are afterwards proved to be negative. Disinfection is also undertaken in cases of Tuberculosis and in respect of other illnesses and diseases, upon request. Much bedding and clothing is disinfected by steam at the Groeswen Hospital by permission of the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee.

The number of inspections made during the year, under this heading, was 94 and a total of 73 houses and 142 lots of bedding, clothing, etc., was disinfected.

The positive cases dealt with during 1957 were as follows:—

Diphtheria	—
Scarlet Fever	27
Poliomyelitis	2
Meningitis	3
Dysentery	4
Paratyphoid	—
Erysipelas	2
Food Poisoning	3

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

We were reluctantly obliged to institute the following prosecutions during the year :—

### Offence.

### Result.

Structural defects at 16 Swan Street, Port Talbot.	Case adjourned for 1 month to allow the work to be completed. Costs awarded.
Structural defects at Flats 1 and 5, 52 Pentyla.	Case adjourned for 1 month. Costs awarded. At the re-hearing, the bench was informed that the nuisance had been abated.
Structural defects at 8 Blodwen Street, Aberavon Port Talbot.	Order given for work to be done within 3 months. Costs awarded.
Mr. R. Sheedy, 4 Westfield Road, Newport. Contravention of Section 154, Public Health Act, 1936—Exchange of toys for rags with children under 14 years of age.	Fined £5 0s. 0d.
Mr. B. Richards, 45 High Street, Aberavon. Contravention of Food Standards Order 1944 (Amended) and Food Standards (Cream) Order, 1951, and Food and Drugs Act 1955—unlawfully selling pure thick cream which did not comply with the standard of composition for pure thick cream, being deficient in butter fat.	Plea of guilty. Fined £2 0s. 0d., and costs.
Structural defects at 19 and 20, Maesteg Road, Bryn Port Talbot.	Case first adjourned for 14 days to allow work to be done. At re-hearing, nothing having been done, an order for 1 month was given. Costs awarded.
Structural defects at 19 and 20, Maesteg Road, Bryn, Port Talbot. Disobedience of Order of Court.	Case suspended, with the imposition of a penalty of 2/-d. per day until the work was carried out. The owner later paid a penalty of £13 8s. 0d. and then sold the houses to the occupiers.
Structural defects at 19 Copper Row, Cwmavon (owner unknown.)	Order for 14 days. (Work then done in default, by Corporation).
Mr. E. Davies, 46 Corlanman. Permitting the occupancy of this house by Mr. Gordon John Ley, contrary to Section 155, Housing Act, 1936.	Case adjourned for 14 days to allow Mr. Davies and Mr. Ley to come to a decision as to Mr. Ley's vacating the house. The house was later vacated by Mr. Ley.







